



Seniors speak out

Graduating students leave words of wisdom for those left behind

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Growing up integrated

Seniors talk about how living in a diverse city has affected them

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SHAKERITE

MAY 4, 1995

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL · 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE · SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

MAC Scholars inspire younger peers

BY VANYA GREEN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

African-American freshman and sophomore men file into the small auditorium. They firmly shake hands with their older peers standing at the entrance, look them in the eyes and greet them.

"If they don't do it right, they have to do it again," Minority Achievement Scholar senior Courtney Ledyard said.

At the Minority Achievement Committee (MAC) recognition assembly last year, many of the young men being recognized gave limp handshakes and did not look at those who were shaking their hands, MAC adviser Mary Lynne McGovern said. Now every meeting routinely begins with the same greeting at the entryway to the small auditorium.

MAC Scholars (junior and senior African-American high-achieving men) meet twice a month with the underclassmen who have not reached their potential, Ledyard said. Each meeting has a pre-set agenda which the scholars work out with McGovern.

"We have fun. At the same time, we get down to business," Ledyard said.

The scholars cover a variety of topics related to academics.

"[The MAC scholars have addressed topics including] goal-setting, drugs and gangs, conflict resolution and reality and problems of black males in the U.S.," McGovern said. "Time is also spent on study techniques, sources of extra help available in the school and how to be a self-advocate in the classroom and school setting."

African-American freshman and sophomore males with a GPA of 1.9 or below are invited to join the program, McGovern said. They are divided into "emerging scholars" and "potential scholars." Those in the "emerging scholars" category are students overcoming academic difficulties, while those in the "potential scholars" category have already overcome those difficulties and are currently working to improve their GPAs.

Underclassmen who show no improvement throughout the semester are not invited back and are placed on inactive status.

In order to become MAC Scholars, African-American males entering their junior or senior years must have a GPA of 2.6 or above and be recommended by the scholars or teachers. The previous year's scholars interview and select new scholars to join them.

Those involved in the program attribute its success to the fact that the younger students can relate to the scholars.

"[The younger MAC students] see us everyday, so it's not like we're preaching



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS. The winning team of the MAC Basketball tournament pose for a shot after receiving their medals. The members of team UNLV were Ian Barks, Alex Green, Brandon Wright, Delanti Jackson, Nelson Love, Rashaan Poole, Rodney Emory and Carlton Mitchell. MAC runs the annual basketball tournament as a fundraiser.

Shakerite Photo by Ben Lind

to them," MAC Scholar senior Preston Reaze said. "We don't talk to them as parents, we talk to them as brothers. It's that close relationship that we have with them that results in the program's success."

Ledyard said he can identify with the underclassmen because during his freshman and sophomore years, he was in MAC as an underachiever.

"I was just like them. I had bad study habits," he said. "I thought I was just going to amount to a regular person until I recognized my talents. MAC was a big stepping stone for me."

McGovern said the success of the program is due to the work that the scholars do. Reading Specialist Michael Nash, who assists with MAC, agreed.

"Give the credit to the young men," he said. "Emphasize what they do."

Nash is also quick to point out that the entire program is self-sufficient.

"Not one dime of taxpayers money goes into the program," he said.

Critics of MAC sometimes cite its omission of female students as the group's major weakness. Nash explained that although the achievement of African-American females at the high school is still below that of white students, that of African-American males is even lower.

With over 60 male students starting in MAC in the fall, he said the program would get too big if it included women.

"This group is doing so much to bring about changes in young men. Do we then negate the program because of one thing? There are just too many positive things that happen to allow someone to tear it down," Nash said.

He added that while WHEW (Women Helping Educate Women) serves a purpose somewhat similar to MAC, they focus more on confidence building and less on academics.

"I would like to see [an academic program started for women]. I think it would work," Nash said.

The MAC program itself was started in 1990 after the Faculty Achievement Committee consulted both high-achieving and underachieving African-American male students.

"They discussed and shared with us, in great detail and with insight far beyond their years, those events and experiences that had left negative and positive impressions on them. They also gave us suggestions and ideas that they felt were worth exploring in our efforts to increase black male academic achievement in the high school," McGovern said.

Nash said the meetings with the African-American men provided a perspective the teachers did not have.

"I've never been a black teenager. I've never lived the problems," Nash said. "[The students we consulted] had aspirations to be somebody. They had the attitude that nobody cared about them and that just put them in a hole."

According to MAC scholar senior Reggie Nickson, he is in MAC to provide that necessary support.

"I felt that it was my duty as a black male [to help younger black males through MAC]. When I was there I did it all myself. If I would have had somebody there, I would have done better," Nickson said. "[The younger members] get a better sense of where they need to be as far as grades and where they need to be in life. They want to do well, but they need direction—that's what we are there for."

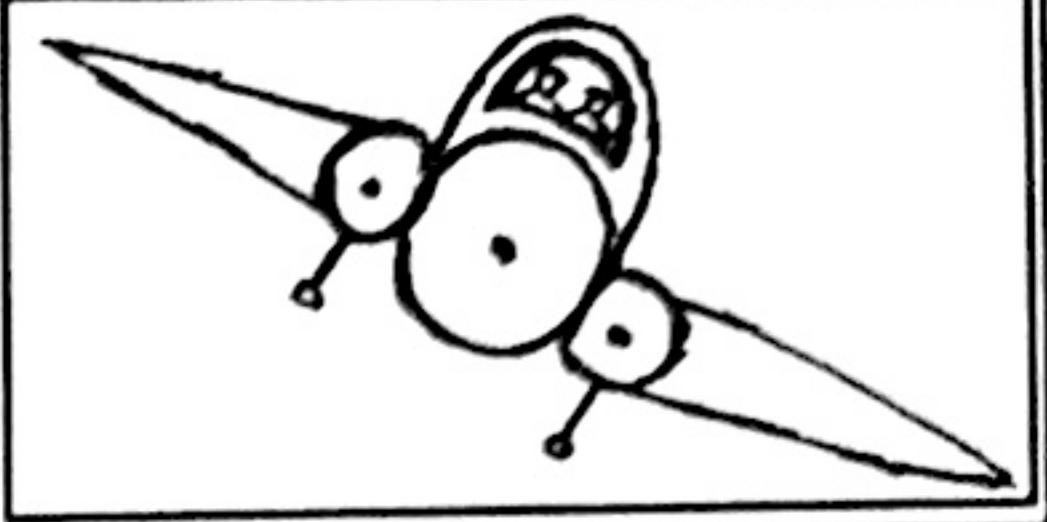
Ledyard, Nash and others are hopeful that at this year's awards ceremony, the young men being recognized will give a firm handshake.

"It's a small thing, but hey you're a man," Nash said. "You shake hands and show that you are important too."

Miles Berger contributed to this article

Students given opportunity to win airline tickets

Students will have a chance to win two round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines in the next spirit pass drawing on June 2, according to English teacher Rosemary Merchant. The tickets can be used anywhere Southwest flies, and they will be good until May, '96.



Students to vote on plan to extend lunch by seven minutes

BY NAWAL ATWAN
Staff Reporter

Lunch periods will be seven minutes longer and the day will be a minute shorter if students approve a plan that requires them to throw away their trash and keep the cafeteria clean.

The change from a 23- to 30-minute lunch period, introduced by the faculty Discipline Committee, will be voted on by all freshmen, sophomores and juniors in homeroom on May 9, according to math teacher and Discipline Committee Chairman Alan Siebert.

If the longer lunch period wins by student vote, the new schedule will be initiated in a trial period after Senior Project begins on May 15, Siebert said.

The extra seven minutes of lunch will provide students with free time in exchange for their compliance to dispose of their trash, according to Siebert.

"We need to make a concentrated effort to keep the cafeteria clean. The key to discipline comes from within. Students must take ownership of their school and clean up their trash," Siebert said.

A two-minute warning signal, either a strobe light or bell, before the end of each lunch will be set up in the cafeteria to help students clean up without being rushed, according to Siebert.

Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh said a common school issue has been the short lunch time. He said the extra time would provide encouragement to students and give them time to bus their own tables.

"Cleaning up after eating is a matter of common decency and respect for staff workers in the cafeteria," Rumbaugh said.

According to Rumbaugh, the trial run of the new schedule would be evaluated by a committee of select-

ed teachers and himself to determine if the extra lunch time will remain during the '95-'96 school year.

Many students agreed the extra seven minutes during lunch would make eating less rushed and more enjoyable.

"I think we need [seven] more minutes because of the long lines in the cafeteria to buy lunch. By the time we get our lunch, we do not have much time to eat and clean up," sophomore Kalicia Perry said.

Cafeteria workers Ora Stewart and Bellma Jackson said they hope the extra time and warning signal will make students clean up their trash. They said the tables and floors are filthy after each lunch period.

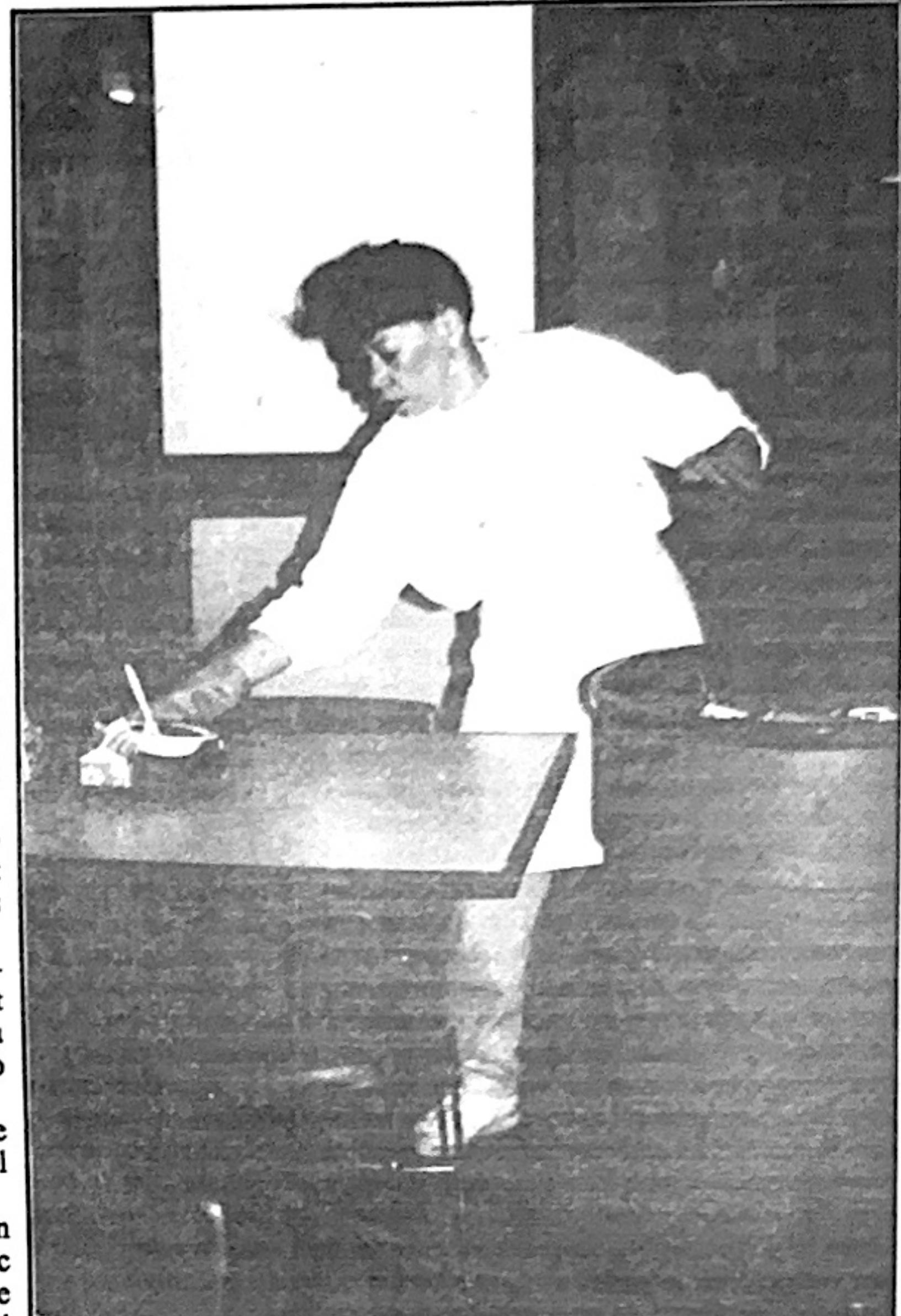
"If we can get 50 percent of the students to cooperate, it would make a tremendous difference. It takes a full lunch period to clean the children's mess after they leave the cafeteria," Jackson said.

An earlier proposal would have added five minutes to lunches and would cause the day to end at 3:05 p.m. The committee gave the proposal to a group of students who said they did not want to extend the day.

This new proposal will shorten the time between classes from five to four minutes, and will make the day end at 2:59 p.m.

The Discipline Committee is also working on solutions to the hallway problems of jammed traffic and misconduct, according to Discipline Committee member and 12th Grade Assistant Principal Randall Yates.

The committee will also begin a monthly open forum of school leaders, parents and faculty to discuss ways to solve school problems, according to Siebert.



TAKE OUT THE PAPERS AND THE TRASH. A cafeteria worker cleans up a messy table after lunch. A new plan would encourage students to clean up their trash in exchange for five extra minutes at lunch.

Shakerite photo by Laura Kusnick

Media Center to close at end of June

BY EMILY HOFFMAN
Staff Reporter

More work and less teaching time lie ahead for Shaker librarians as a result of the District Library Media Center closing. The media center is closing June 30th due to the levy failure.

The media center's duties include ordering textbooks, coordinating textbook adoptions, providing extra copies of books, selecting books for the libraries, and coordinating the separate school libraries in the district.

"We try to do things for each of the schools so that teachers, secretaries, etc. don't have to," Ellen Stepanian, Director of Library Media said.

Stepanian will oversee the decentralization of some of the media center's duties, and will continue to coordinate the

libraries during the next school year.

The closing of the media center will save money in personnel costs. This year, the staff consists of one administrator and 5.6 staff positions. The budget for the media center this year was \$457,796. The amount of savings is not known at this time.

Automation, or putting all of the catalog in computers, has been the goal of the media center for 20 years. The fate of their work is not known at this time.

Many details of the closing are not clear. The center and the administration are communicating to clarify some of the details. Some librarians, such as Becky

Thomas at Onaway, say they are upset.

"There is no plan," Thomas emphasized.

High school librarian Kelly Jons said the closing of the Media Center means there will be more work for librarians.

"It looks like we'll be taking care of a lot of the little tasks that they're taking care of right now," Jons said.

—librarian Kelly Jons



It looks like we'll be taking care of a lot of the little tasks that they're taking care of right now,

NEWS BRIEF

Club tries to improve school environment

Clean me up!

Signs made by a group in the Human Relations class implore students to clean up after themselves.

This is one part of their effort to get kids to clean up according to their teacher Terry Pollack. They are also posting photos showing students who leave their garbage behind, and those that clean up. (These photos can be found on the wall outside of the cafeteria line.) In addition, they are making PA announcements asking kids to clean up.

Assistant Principal Richard Vlah said he thinks the cafeteria clean-up campaign has been fairly successful.

"It's pretty clean, except for a couple of pockets of intentional garbage," Vlah said. He is in the cafeteria eighth period every day.

Some tables reacted negatively to the group's efforts. Upon seeing the signs, they started to intentionally leave a mess at their table.

"They were just asking for it," one student said.

The human relations class was divided into groups to work on various problems. In addition to the cafeteria group, there are also groups working on improving the halls, class behavior and extracurricular activities. Pollack assigned the groups their topics and the students then thought of and implemented ways to improve their categories.

Vlah said having students address these problems themselves has benefits.

"I think that some students are responding because it's a message from other students," Vlah said about the cafeteria clean-up effort.

—Alexios Hadji

School undergoes North Central Evaluation

BY MILES BERGER
Staff Reporter

On March 13, the high school underwent the North Central Evaluation which reviews high quality schools to help them define target areas to work on.

"[The North Central Evaluation] is a volunteer group that only the very best schools belong to. It is one more measure of excellence in the Shaker schools," Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh said.

According to Rumbaugh, in order for schools to belong to the North Central, they must meet certain requirements such as having at least 10,400 books in their libraries and participating in extensive

self-evaluations.

"It forces schools to reach for higher standards than the state requires. Not every school will take the risk of sharing [the problems the school needs to work on]," Rumbaugh said.

Representatives from the five faculty committees of Achievement, Curriculum, Facilities, Community Relations and Discipline convened to help with the evaluation. This committee, chaired by Head of Curriculum William Newby, completed the Student Profile, a thick packet of statistics which relate to the school district and the students enrolled in it.

"We tried to gather information about our student body into one central location [in the Student Profile]," Newby said.

Some of the statistics covered in the Student Profile are community demographics, student survey results, student achievement, information about the faculty and special programs.

Rumbaugh said the Student Profile and North Central Evaluation will help the faculty members to assess the academic programs the school district offers to its students.

According to Rumbaugh, the high school has belonged to the North Central since 1917. The yearly membership dues are \$500, and for that fee districts receive accreditation plaques, access to the North Central computer database and evaluations which help the schools deal with problem areas.

Committee puts council back on its feet

BY LINDSAY CAMPBELL
Staff Reporter

Faculty members from the School Community Relations Committee met with students last Thursday to discuss the reformation of student council.

"The point that we are at right now is making a student council, and making it such that it is effective," social studies teacher Chuck Spinner said.

Spinner co-chairs the committee with English teacher Rosemary Merchant.

The major issues presented to the 14 students and 15 faculty members who attended were what the qualifications will be for the candidates running for office, when and how the elections will be run and how to rework the student constitution for a more beneficial student government.

The committee has been taking measures to see what direction the student council should take.

Three student representatives, freshman Danielle Thornton, sophomore Nat Kendall-Taylor and junior Robert Rusher, went to the Cuyahoga County Student Council Consortium. Fifty of the sixty high schools in northeast Ohio attended to discuss common problems and share ideas about student council.

Thornton found that although Shaker

has its problems, so do many other schools.

"Most of the problems we encountered with the group were that we were in a different situation. Many schools were getting ready to close so it made me realize we were more fortunate," Thornton said.

Rusher also realized that while Shaker may be lacking in pride and student government, our curriculum has few shortcomings.

"I take for granted everything we have. [Other schools] don't have German or photography or classes like that," Rusher said.

At the meeting, students and faculty who did not attend the consortium were given a chance to learn about programs that are working for other high schools and to present their own ideas to the committee.

Some high schools put out flyers, newsletters and calendars of events from their student councils. Others organized a

Pride Club which was put in charge of posters, pep rallies and dances. Garfield High School has a unique idea of awarding various "gold cards" or "silver cards" based on G.P.A., which could be used for Pizza Hut pizza, limo rides and even exemption from certain homework.

The meeting also focused on getting a solid foundation for an active student government. A lot of the changes focused on qualifications for student council.

"Some people might be running [for election] just to be running and it becomes a popularity contest," Rusher said.

The committee responded by deciding that candidates must be passing all subjects, have a minimum GPA of 2.5, have teacher recommendations for all major subjects, and cannot be on an attendance contract. Also, there will now be four class officers and 10 members at large, rather than six. Other changes are being made. The committee plans on having several more such meetings, until student council can get back on its feet.

66

Most of the problems we encountered with the [consortium] were that we were in a different situation. Many schools were getting ready to close so it made me realize we were more fortunate,"

—freshman Danielle Thornton

Shakerite announces '95-'96 staff

BY COURTNEY MASINI
Co-Editor-in-Chief

As the school year ends, so does the reign of this year's Shakerite staff.

New Co-Editors-in-chief juniors Debbie Libman and Seema Shah, were selected in March. After an application and interview process, they chose the '95-'96 staff.

The new positions are News Editor: sophomore Nawal Atwan, Opinion Editor: sophomore Marie Frisof, Co-Arts and Entertainment Editors: sophomores Miles Berger and Jessica Weeks, Centerpiece Editor: sophomore Rachel Zinn, Co-Feature Editors: junior Katie Edelstein and sophomore Nicole Sutcliffe, Co-Sports Editors: sophomores Scott Fuller and Brendan Masini and juniors Leigh Stevens, Production Manager: junior Ryan Gohmann, Photography Manager: junior Laura Kushnick, Business and Advertising Manager: sophomore Rebecca Marshall, and Computer Coordinator: sophomore Alexios Hadji.

Congratulations to the new staff. We wish them good luck and happy reporting in the future.

Eco-fair educates while providing good time

BY RACHEL ZINN
Staff Reporter

The Eco-Fair, sponsored by the environmental club and biology classes to educate Shaker residents about ecology, took place in the girls' gym last Saturday.

"It's guaranteed that if you come, you'll have fun," adviser and science teacher Robert Sylak said before the event.

This is the second year the Eco-Fair has been held. This year's fair was made up of approximately one hundred people running booths containing information about a variety of environmental topics.

The booths were constructed by members of the environmental club, Paul Repasy's and Ken Culek's biology classes as well as other students who chose to participate.

Culek agreed to give his students class credit if they made a booth because of the educational value of the event.

"We're not going to cover ecology in class because of limited time, but it is an essential part of biology. I want the kids to have some exposure to it," Culek said.



RECYCLE THIS. Sophomore Schuyler Holmes discusses ecological issues at her Eco-fair booth. Approximately one hundred students made booths for the Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

The Eco-Fair targeted both adults and children. The 47 booths included educational games to appeal to young children as well as pamphlets and displays to give environmental information to older visitors.

According to Sylak, the environmental club used the money from T-shirt sales to

purchase 1,000 trees and \$400 in prizes to give away for the games. He also said the club will probably lose money on the fair.

Several bands performed live in the gym with a professional sound system. The Nakeds, made up of high school students, was a participant.

Radio station WENZ and the

Greenleaf Grocery at Van Aken Center were professional sponsors of the fair.

Sophomore Lyndsay Karfeld explained why she participated in the Eco-fair.

"Eco-Fair is important because in one afternoon it lets people experience different ecological problems and how to solve them," Karfeld said.

Sophomore Lynn Hickman participated for similar reasons.

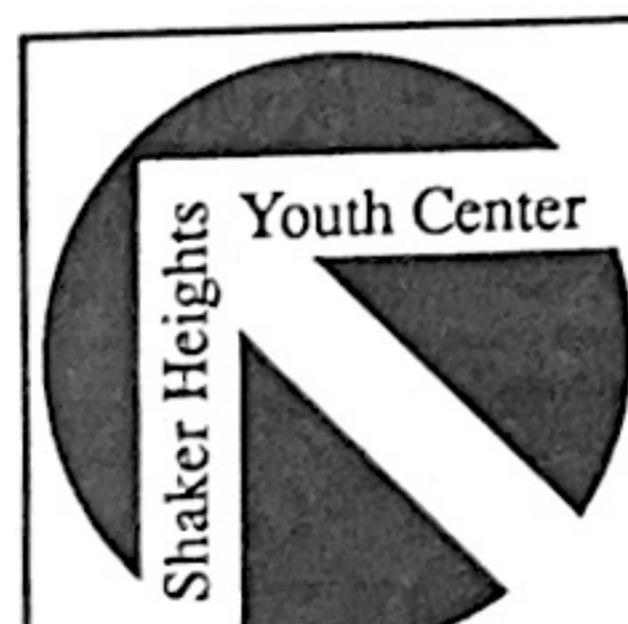
"I did this because I care about the environment and I'd like to share with others how to help the community," Hickman said.

Six-year-old Daniel Rosenfeld said he liked many aspects of the fair.

"I liked dunking for apples and throwing water balloons," Rosenfeld said.

People could win tickets for participating in the games, and could then turn in the tickets for food and prizes. According to senior Kelly Bodnar who helped hand out prizes, the most requested prizes were the waterguns, which they sold out of quickly.

Staff reporter Nicole Sutcliffe contributed to this article.



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Students to speak their minds in new guest column

Submissions are being accepted for a student guest column which will start appearing next month in the Opinion pages. Express your opinion about a school-related issue in 400-500 words. Please bring your entries to Sally Schwartz in Rm. 231. If you have questions, contact Marie Frisof or Schwartz.

Students' response to Oklahoma bombing lacks sympathy, understanding for victims

THE RITE IDEA

It is not just yesterday's news. In a world filled with crime and disaster, we are used to murders, earthquakes and accidents occupying a minute or two on the evening news, only to be replaced by more recent murders, earthquakes and accidents the next day. The bombing in Oklahoma City, however, has not faded into the background. It is a tragedy that continues to be investigated and analyzed throughout the country. In Shaker Heights, we should also be paying close attention to this situation.

Unfortunately, the way many of us have reacted

to the bombing has been inappropriate and insensitive. The tragedy has become the topic of bad jokes and the first question on current events quizzes.

The incident has gone so far as to incite people to call in false bomb threats all over the country. Even our school became a victim of a false bomb threat. And last Tuesday's bomb threat was the first time many of us realized the seriousness of what occurred in Oklahoma City. The lives that would have been destroyed had our school been a target of violence finally became almost comprehensible to us.

As students in a relatively safe suburb, we often do not understand, or are even apathetic about disasters in other parts of the world. As many well-meaning PA announcers who plea with us to observe a moment of silence or teachers who sacrifice a few

class minutes to discuss what has happened, our lives are only moderately affected by world-events—if at all.

We are undoubtedly going to be bombarded with world crisis and tragedies for the rest of our lives. And although we will hopefully not be the victims, we must not go on with our lives without a thought to those who have suffered.

It is imperative we all remember that the Oklahoma City bombing was not a topic for discussion, the answer on a current events quiz or a photo opportunity for a newspaper. The Oklahoma City bombing was a senseless act of violence against innocent people. To many, it means funerals, abruptly-ended lives and learning how to move on after death and destruction.

CHEERS & JEERS

Cheers to our spring sports teams—dominating the competition again.

Jeers to our last issue as Shakerite editors. We're all broken up about it.

Cheers to six more days.

Jeers to being a junior in a senior class. Starting May 15, your life will be a living hell.

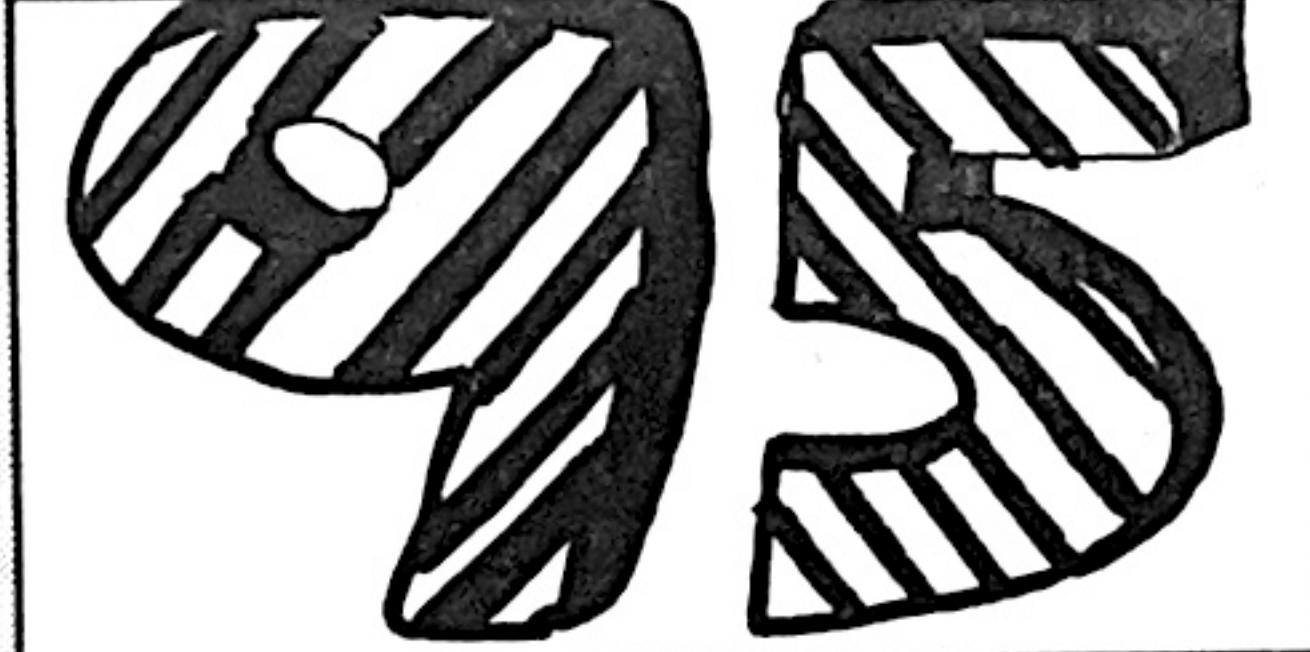
Cheers to the modern dance show. Why no assembly?

Jeers to those big, nasty Knickerbockers.

Cheers to giving blood to the Red Cross.

Jeers to not telling them you have herpes.

Cheers to the suspense surrounding senior prank day. Watch your back.



Jeers for having to pay \$7 to see movies like *Jury Duty*.

Cheers to possible 30 minute lunches next year. No more need to apply the Heimlich from scarfing down our food.

Jeers to The Puzzle. Why is it so damn hard?

Cheers to six more days. It's worth repeating.

THE TOP TEN

Signs that spring has arrived in Shaker...

10. Seniors have begun their comprehensive project on the effects of 12 hours of TV a day.
9. The tennis team is whoopin' some butt.
8. Surf's up at the duck pond.
7. The Shaker Heights Teacher's Association has formed their own bikini team.
6. The men's lacrosse team is wearing jerseys up to their nipples.
5. The Shakerite has stopped checking for spelling mistakes.
4. Dr. Rumbaugh starts to wear Dazey Dukes from his spring collection.
3. That dude with the pocket protector in your math class starts having allergy attacks.
2. The Opinion Editors don't care if the Top 10 list is funny anymore.

...and the number one sign is...

1. Beautiful flowers are blooming.

The Shakerite is a public forum published nine times yearly for and by the students of Shaker Heights High School.

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When you dis others, you really dis yourself

BY MICHAEL BECKER
Co-Sports Editor

"Did you see how stupid Johnnie was acting?" a student asked.

"Yeah, what a loser," somebody replied.

Then every other person in the conversation would continue ripping on Johnnie, until they were convinced that Johnnie was a horrible person, whether he deserved it or not.

Ever since children learn to talk, they learn how to make fun of other people. Some of the time this is okay, if the person really did do something bad to intentionally cause hurt, but most of the time it is done to make people feel better about themselves.

Almost every person is guilty of this. It is so easy to make fun of some-

“

Ever since children learned to talk, they learned how to make fun of other people...most of the time [this] is done to make people feel better about themselves.”

body else and we do it all of the time, but it is time for it to stop.

Just as everyone of us has put someone else down, virtually all of us have been ripped on. Hardly anybody likes being insulted behind his back.

In fact, one of the biggest problems at this school is all of these negative statements being made about other people. All it does is divide us, and it seems to be happening more and more. The senior class is a perfect example. There are too many cliques and different groups who all think they are better than everybody else. Even inside these groups, people are constantly talking about each other.

What making fun of others does is spread more hate around. Does this school or any other institution in the world need more hate to divide us? Absolutely not.

Imagine a world where nobody made fun of anybody. Where people were accepting of everybody and all got along. That would be better than where we are now. All of these prejudices about others would be gone and we would take people for what they really are, instead of what others think of them.

If this were the case, your friends would remain the same but outside of your friends you would be able to get along with everybody.

For instance, if a teacher assigned groups with people who were not your friends, you would be able to accomplish your task with the differences put aside. Maybe you would be able to gain new friends with a positive attitude.

But now if you are assigned a group into which you think you hate the other people, you will not try to work things out and your project work will suffer.

Of four years in the high school, this is what has bugged me the most. I admit that I have participated in this horrible activity, but now I am going to vow to stop. I am going to stop hating and making fun of others for personal pleasure.

For the good of the school, I encourage others to join with me in this quest for happiness. If everybody can try being nice to others, if only for a short time, maybe it will catch on and when I come back to visit in the years to come, Shaker will be a more positive environment.

Shaker students can't fly in cyberspace

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Managing Editor

Gopher. The Web. Terms to memorize for the next biology test? A lot of students may think so, but they are also useful parts of the Internet. To those who are familiar with computers, those words are a means of research, of entertainment and of communication. They mean touring the White House, visiting the Louvre and finding out the temperature in Baghdad, all without leaving the comforts of home. They mean a glimpse into the technological future. Unfortunately, to many students here, they mean nothing. They are words not taught to students at the high school.

In many ways, Shaker does a good job granting students an education superior to those of a great amount of the high schools across the nation. We, as students, are usually guaranteed the latest editions of textbooks, a wide range of course offerings, qualified teachers, and a plethora of co- and extra-curricular activities. After four years at this school and after meeting students from all around the country at the colleges I visited, I have come to appreciate how much better I have been prepared for college than a lot of those whom I have met.

Unfortunately, however, as many diverse classes as I have taken and as many superior teachers as I have had, Shaker has not prepared me adequately to face my future in one area: computers and the "information superhighway."

As we head into the 21st century, computers and the Internet will comprise an ever-greater part of our everyday lives, from how we gather information and communicate with one another to how we entertain ourselves. It is time to start educating Shaker's young people to understand and be able to use this new technology for their own benefit.

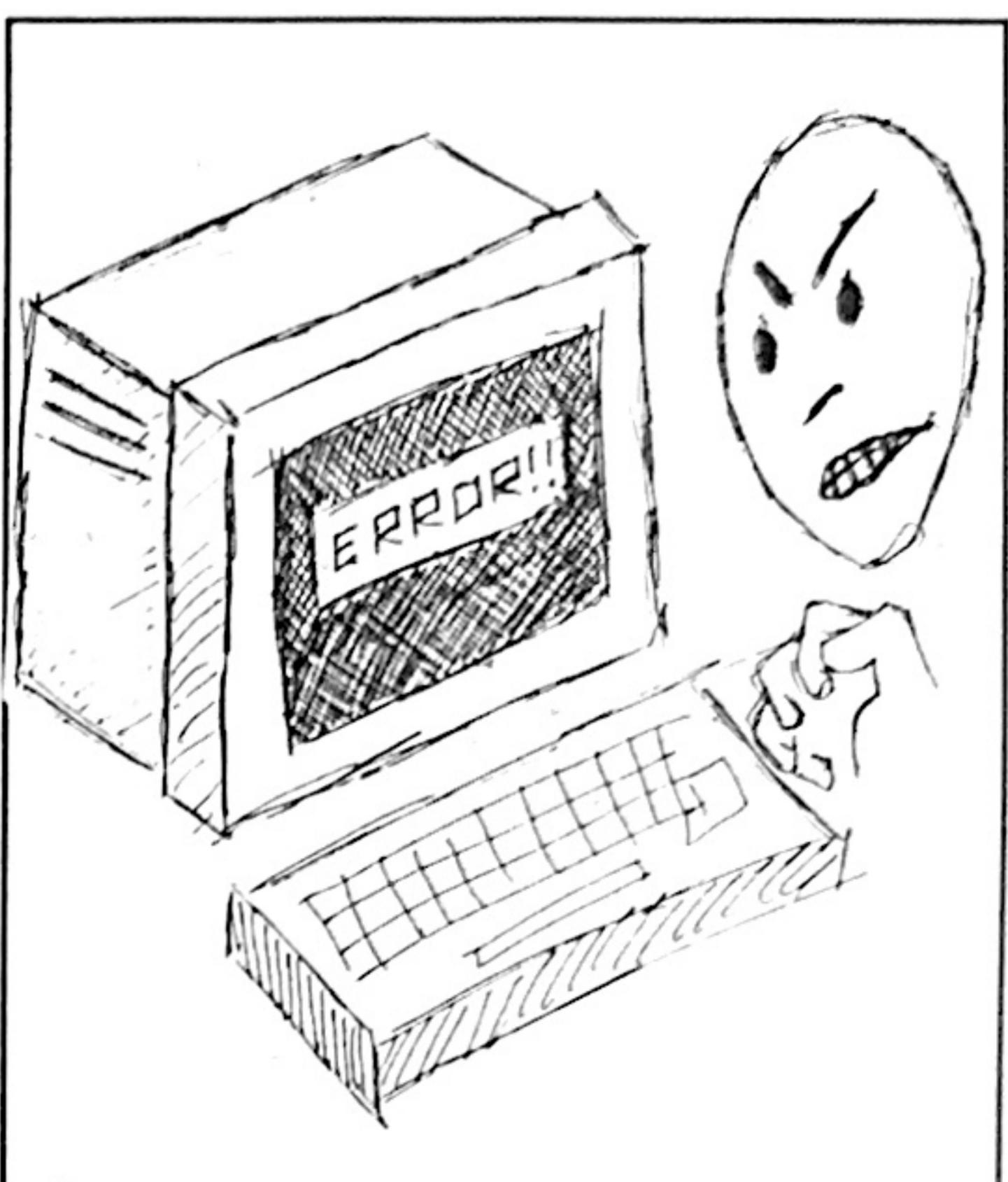
Many students in this school are

almost, if not completely, computer illiterate. If a person were to look through the Program Planning Guide, it would seem that we have more than enough computer courses in which to educate our students, and indeed, those who choose to take computer courses here can learn a great deal. The operative word, here, however, is choose. In order to learn about computers, even for basics like wordprocessing, students must allocate elective time, if they choose to pursue computer courses at all. And most students do not.

Some sort of computer education should be mandatory for Shaker High School students. We learned Logo in elementary school and had limited

computer programming in the middle school, but when we got to high school our education on computers came to a screeching halt. It would be beneficial for all of us to have a practical computer course that would instruct us to utilize computers in ways we need, or will need in the future, to function in our everyday lives. We all need to learn wordprocessing, e-mail and researching on the Internet.

In order to provide such a course, however, it is necessary to update the computer equipment available to students at the high school. While it is true that students here have access to a larger quantity of computers than do students at most schools, at present we have no access to



Shakerite artwork by Esther Rosenfeld

the Internet, which would be one of the most useful things to students.

Teachers, too, who in many cases are also unfamiliar with the computer world, should be offered training courses in areas that would not only be useful in the education of their students—such as methods for finding research materials on-line—but also areas that the school has the equipment to make the application of these new skills possible and accessible to them and their students.

The world we live in is changing rapidly, and if we at Shaker want to continue to be known by the quality of the schools we keep, we should be prepared to face those changes as they happen.

Class of '95 finally starts coming together—unfortunately, eight years too late

BY MARGARET SAWYER
Co-Centerpiece Editor

The frisbee flew out of my hands as I made eye contact with a classmate standing near the oval. He smiled at me and threw it towards another collection of seniors across the lawn.

An everyday game of frisbee, some might think. Those of us playing, however, realized the significance of that afternoon. "It's like we're bonding," I heard a girl say, and I had to agree. The game was really the first time I can remember feeling class unity at Shaker.

The class of '95 was the first to attend Woodbury for the full two years, and therefore also the first to be clumped together as a class for eight years. Eight years of growing up together, yet there are still forty names on the back of the senior T-shirts that I cannot identify. We've been together longer than any class before us, but how well do we really know each other?

There are numerous reasons behind our lack of unity. The first is a result of coming together at such a young age. We formed opinions about each other based on that first year together as eleven-year-olds, and established cliques that still have not disappeared. A friend of mine who moved to Shaker during high school has often commented on the Shaker style of holding grudges.

"You hate people for things they did



Shakerite artwork by Jennifer Johnson

to you in seventh grade!" she says. "That was forever ago!"

We have locked ourselves into (relatively) impermeable friendship circles, and locked our classmates out based on age-old reputations.

The separations of the class of '95 also stem from Shaker's tiered educational system. AP, Honors and CP students were segregated during our first month at Woodbury by programs like "Gifted and Talented" (now known as Academic Resource Program) and "Special Math".

We've all been tracked into our respective places ever since, with only brief interruptions like ninth-grade Global Studies and Homeroom to remind us of the other students in our grade.

That game of frisbee was fun, but it left a bittersweet taste in my mouth. I realized that my class is just a collection of strangers, and in ten years I probably will have forgotten forty more names on that T-shirt. I'm sad, '95, that it took me eight years to see our potential, and to suddenly graduate before I ever really know you.

Graduation brings onset of mixed emotions

BY COURTNEY MASINI
Co-Editor-in-Chief

I moved here from a small town west of Chicago four years ago. I had lived in the same house my whole life, and I had never even thought that I might end up going to high school somewhere else. When my parents told me I was moving, I consoled myself with the thought that it would only be four years here, and that I could get through it. I knew I would have fun, but I didn't realize I could become so attached to the people and this place.

For awhile, I thought about what I would be doing if I were still back in Illinois. I referred to there as my home, and I only secondarily thought of Shaker. It took time to get accustomed to the way things are done around here, and it took time to get comfortable with the surroundings.

The four years have flown. I don't know if that's because time flies when you're having fun or just because time flies. I mean, high school has been fun, but it has been incredibly stressful and unenjoyable at times too. I can't believe how far away my first day of school here seems and how much has happened since then. It seems like only yesterday that we came for Freshman Orientation and got led around by the seniors.

I didn't know anybody. Every face I saw was new to me. I talked to a few people, and I still remember those who were kind to me my first few days. Soon the faces turned into friends, people who I got to know. For awhile, it was weird because I had no roots with anybody, it was just a blank slate. But after awhile, new inside jokes developed and a history was formed.

I've been thinking about all this lately

because next fall it's going to start all over again. College is going to be so different, so much fun, but it's going to start the same way high school did. Orientation, meeting new people, starting over. I know it's going to be a lot of fun, and I'm really excited about that. I'm glad I had the experience of moving, because I know it's not that bad to start in a new place and not know anybody. I know it takes awhile to find your niche and learn where you fit in, but I know that you eventually do find your group.

My only fear is that college will go by even faster than high school has. After finally finding good friends and getting used to calling Shaker my home, I now have to leave. Nothing will ever be the same when we come back on our breaks from school. We will all have new friends, new places, new ideas. When we get together, we'll realize how much we've changed, and how startling the differences are. We've changed in high school, but the change has been so gradual that we haven't noticed. After going away, we will see the differences in each other immediately, good or bad.

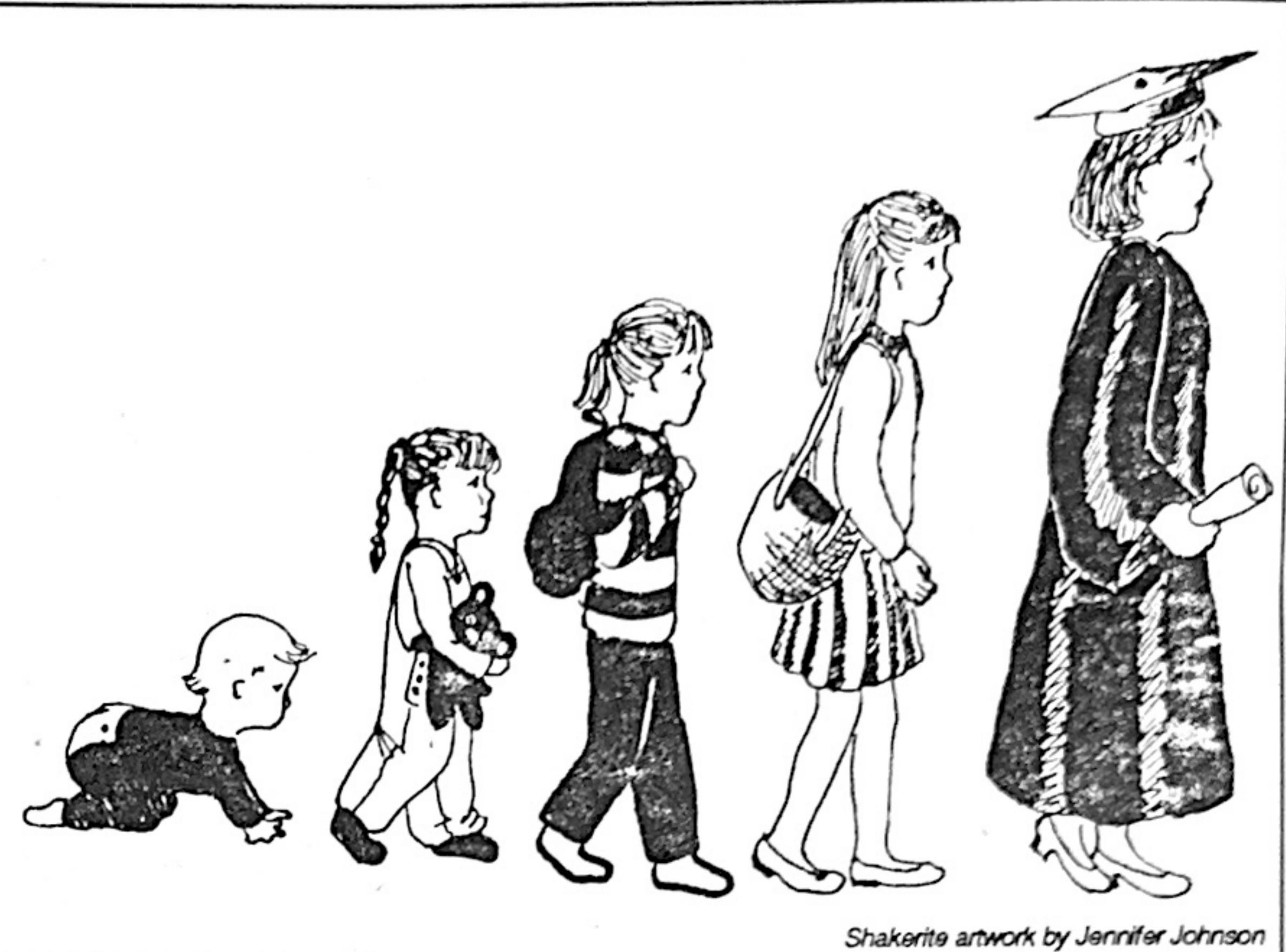
It's so depressing to think that the people we consider our closest friends probably won't remember our names in 10

years. Only a few relationships will continue to last, but the peripheral acquaintances that seem important now will not really matter. All the good times will become memories, which seems so sad. We're having so much fun now, it's hard to imagine having the same experiences with other people. But it is inevitable.

We don't have to deal with these ideas right now, but I know I am. I want my camera with me all the time so that I can make a futile attempt to capture forever the experiences I'm having. The count-

down has begun, our days together are numbered. To some people that doesn't matter so much, but I know that many people are feeling the same way as I am.

Even though the thought of leaving is sad, I want to focus on the happiness and joy of this important time in our lives. Although our time together was brief, at least it was packed with fun and good times. Four years ago I wouldn't have been able to imagine how great these years would be, I couldn't have asked for anything more.



Shakerite artwork by Jennifer Johnson

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

For years I have been vaguely bothered by certain communications that sometimes descend from the PA, and it's only recently I've figured out why I've been uncomfortable with this particular group of announcements. Simply put, I want to argue that the use of the PA to communicate deeply meaningful information is a mistake. Let me try to define "deeply meaningful."

Recently the PA has been used to provide thumbnail sketches of African-American figures, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the victims of the Holocaust, and to pause to reflect on the horror of the Oklahoma City bombing. Each of these announcements represented an attempt to communicate highly meaningful, potentially emotionally laden information. It is this use of a public address system, particularly in a school setting, which I believe is a mistake. In each case the message is too big, too critically important to entrust to the impersonal format of an announcement.

The Holocaust, African-American history, the Oklahoma tragedy and the extremist fringe groups that fueled it—these require thoughtful discussion. They deserve time out from the curriculum and the face to face human exchange we expect when the subject is deeply meaningful or emotionally laden. If time for discussions of those significant events cannot be arranged in a school, then that school has simply failed in its task.

No matter how sincere the announcer, we cannot substitute a perfunctory moment of silence, requested from a box on the wall—followed immediately by a Red Raiders baseball score. It insults the human dimension of history; it ignores an opportunity to learn; it tries to accomplish something better left unmentioned than diminished to the size and 'importance' of an announcement.

—Paul Springstubb, English teacher

BY VANYA GREEN
Co-Editor-in-Chief

We were supposed to be friends—candidly caught by the camera. I stood at the blackboard, chalk in hand, smiling, as an African-American classmate looked over my shoulder.

The Shaker Public Relations pamphlets came out several weeks later with our pictures in them. The rainbow of hand-picked students in the photos were smiling, happy and integrated. If only what the Shaker Public Relations Department puts out were true...

If the pamphlets were intended to truly reflect the high school, rather than paint a pleasing picture, then the cameraman should have visited the cafeteria or any other gathering place in the high school. His pictures would be all in black and white—the black students on one side of the cafeteria, the white students on the other. Perhaps he would see an African-American student brush up against a white student. Eyes would roll. A white student new to the school would migrate toward the comfort zone—a group of all whites.

But the pamphlets of course wouldn't show this. It is much easier to round-up a spectrum of students and pretend.

Unfortunately, this is quite reflective of the high school in general. Instead of focusing on ways to improve, we often care more about how we look on paper and rest complacently upon our exemplary statistics.

We have forgot-

ten that what is important, however, is not how many National Merit Scholars we have, but how many students really enjoy learning. I think we have forsaken what is really important in favor of maintaining the status quo and appearing to be perfect.

This school has many dedicated administrators and teachers who care about us and truth in education. What good is teaching the importance of honesty, however, when we are lying to others in brochures—and more importantly when we are lying to ourselves?

We are lying to ourselves to think good SAT statistics reflect a well educated student body. And we are lying to ourselves to think that rounding up students for an integrated photo shoot will make our segregation go away.

I have learned in high school to be honest and forthright. At the same time, I feel that I was used as a public relations pawn. I have been told that I should care about learning for learning's sake. A large part of my education, however, has depended upon a system of numbers and rewards.

While I have been told to "just be yourself," much of my education has

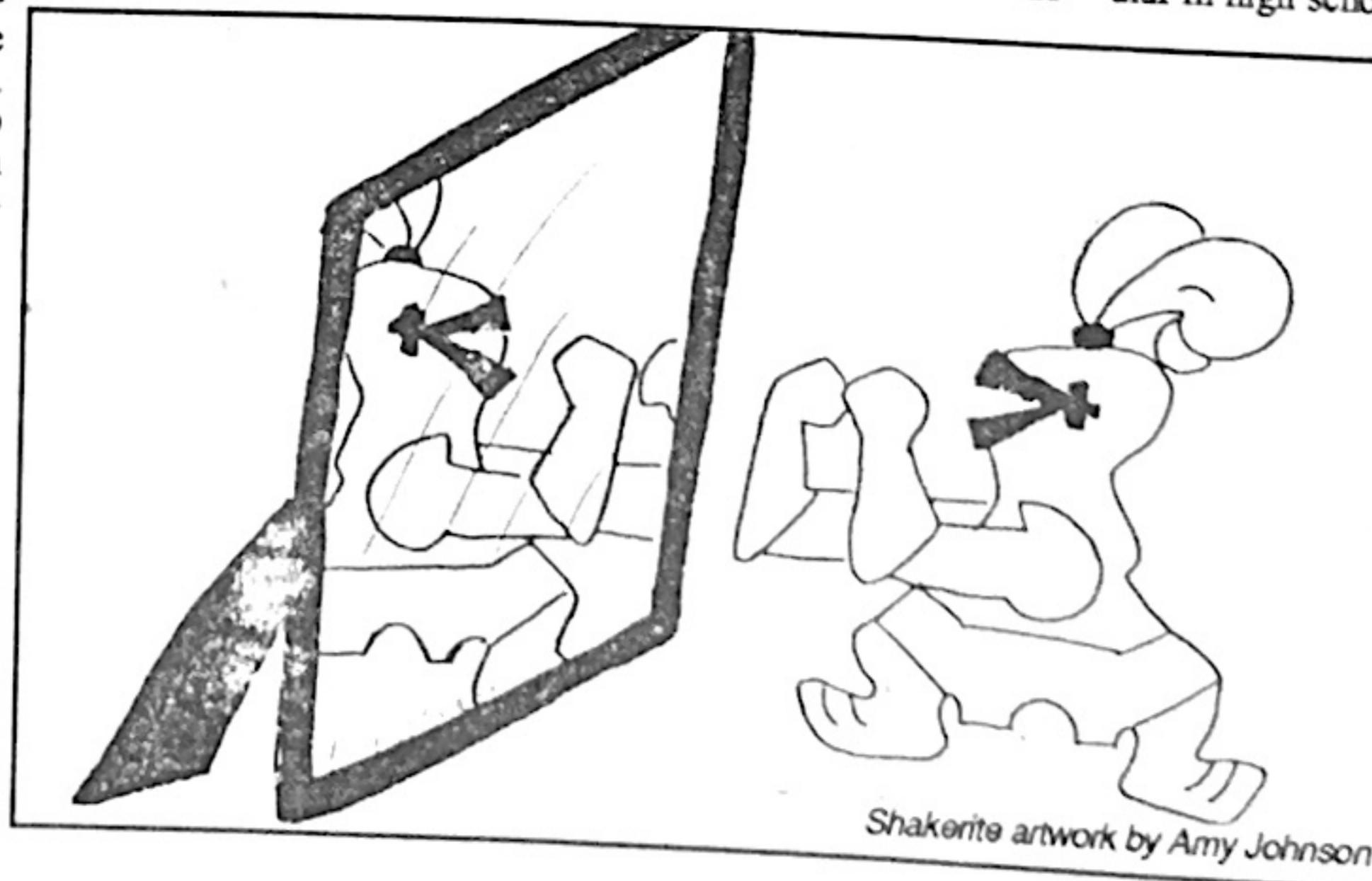
revolved around putting up a front. I have been initiated into the adult world of game playing and politics. I have learned that the bottom line is not how much I know, but what numbers I get. I have learned how to pose to make the school look good in pamphlets which don't truly reflect our school.

We need to stop contradicting ourselves while caring so much about our image. Image, after all, has no substance.

To move forward, we must first admit that this school is not perfect and has its share of problems. Clearly there is a problem when students must be rounded up in order to have pictures of integration. We should stop accepting the same old excuse that African American and white students have different interests and therefore segregation is to be expected.

Instead of rattling off statistics of how wonderful we are everytime someone has a suggestion for change, we should start listening more. We need to take an honest look at ourselves and determine how we can improve.

Now that the reality of graduation is beginning to hit me, I have come to realize how little worth image has. Who was popular in high school will not mean anything next year. Similarly, the statistics that this school touts and how I looked in public relations pamphlets will be meaningless. What will matter, however, is what we sometimes forget about in our efforts to look good. What will matter is what I really learned, not what any report card says. What will really matter is if I ever came to appreciate the diversity of this student body—not if I smiled and turned my head the other way.



Shakerite artwork by Amy Johnson

Ages of 9 people had they lived until 1994

John Belushi 45	Otis Redding 53	James Dean 63
Janis Joplin 51	John Lennon 54	Marilyn Monroe 68
Jimi Hendrix 52	Elvis Presley 59	Jack Kerouac 72



An American (band) in Paris

Quotes compiled by Leslie Simon

"It was definitely a valuable experience. I had never been to Europe before, and all I had ever seen of it were pictures of the Eiffel Tower from some old Britannica set. The trip gave me the chance to experience Europe for myself."

—Jenny Mulligan
sophomore

"The citizens of Paris uncovered for me a world that I have never experienced before. Despite all of the rumors that they were rude, they seemed really nice."

—Melissa Freiman
senior



"At first I was disappointed. I didn't get worked up about going to see the cheese farms of Amsterdam (which we did). However, the plans were flexible, and during the last half of the trip we talked to the band leaders and got more free time."

—Taylor Hokanson
junior

"The trip was a valuable experience because it was the last big experience that my friends and I got to share together."

—Michelle Griffin
senior

Coming from Shaw, an all-black high school [to Shaker], I didn't know how to act around people not of my own ethnicity. Now I know there is really no difference between us, with the exception of the kind of music [different people like] and the language terminology, but these are not bad things. I'm just glad I'll know how to act when I get to college, and that is to act myself. The best way to get along is to just accept everyone, and if they don't accept you, go on with life."

—Ronald Thompson

"Bumping into someone in the halls [at Shaker] turns into a race issue instead of a simple apology. You would think that going to Shaker would teach us to relate to each other as people, not colors, but the obvious truth is that the majority of students cannot relate on *any* level. I think this is really pathetic and sad, and I feel that one day we'll look back and kick ourselves for not taking advantage of our unique situation."

"Our lunch table (in the social room) is probably the most integrated group of people you will find in the school. We have blacks, whites, Asians and mixed students. It's great being able to talk to people who are so open-minded."

"The college I'm interested in is all black, Florida A&M. I feel that I already know how to sufficiently relate to white people. I think that in an all-black college, I'll be able to learn more about my culture, and more in-depth."

"I don't give a thought to whether someone is a Jew or if they're black when I talk to them. Even though there may be racial problems occasionally, never again will any of us be in such a balanced environment."

"Sometimes [race] draws the focus away from what you should be learning—it's distracting. I've had English classes where every discussion will get turned into a racial argument. You can never get around those points, and the real issues get sidetracked."

"I wasn't aware of the animosity that many white students have towards blacks until this year in my government class where we had many discussions. The students in my class came forth with racist attitudes towards black Americans, especially lower-class black Americans. [The class was] unwilling to grant them basic rights deserved by all human beings."



—Ronald Thompson

Nicole Myers—

—Nan Sue Choi

—Erin Yates

—Leslie Waller

—David Moore

—Brian Sowell

—Latrice Daniels

—Krysten Dean

—Emily Troia

—Jay Munyasya

—Teri Davis

—Adam Drucker

—Adina Wright

—Ben Fogarty

—Tom Taylor—

—Chauna Caldwell

—Mara Levi

—Brad Allen—

—Phaedra Long

—Adina Wright

—Teri Davis

—Jay Munyasya

—Teri Davis

—Adam Drucker

—Adina Wright

—Ben Fogarty

—Tom Taylor—

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—Teri Davis

—Adam Drucker

—Adina Wright

Underage dance clubs offer teens fun alternative to regular weekend

BY JESSICA WEEKS
Staff Reporter

When friends' parties start to lose their excitement, evenings at Arabica lose their sparkle and Friday Night Skate just doesn't evoke the same thrill it used to, teens from across the Cleveland area turn to a new way to spend their weekends—dance clubs.

Although most nightclubs in the area require you to be 18 or 19 to get in and have equally adult cover charges, a couple places open their doors to teens one or two nights a week and one, the Cosmopolitan, even reduced its entrance costs for teens.

The Cosmopolitan and Peabody's Cafe are two local clubs where younger patrons are welcome on certain evenings. The Cosmopolitan boasts a nice dance floor, good sound system and pool tables. Every Sunday night is "Young Adults Night" and people ages 14-19 are welcome to dance from 6:30 p.m. until midnight.

Peabody's Cafe is slightly different. On most weekends and sometimes during the week, they have all-ages nights where teens can go to enjoy the live music along with older club-goers. Unlike the Cosmopolitan, alcohol is served to those with the proper I.D. on all ages nights, and older patrons are permitted as well as younger clubgoers.

Sophomore Kate Panuska said she has been to both of these clubs and said that how much fun you have depends on how busy the club is.

"They're both pretty fun. I went to Cosmo twice and one time there were a lot of people and one time there weren't. It was fun when there were a lot of people," Panuska said. "The live music at



GET DOWN! Teenagers find a place to dance the night away at Cosmopolitan dance club in Willoughby. It is just one of the many clubs that students have discovered where they can have fun on a dull weekend.

Shakerite photo by Jessica Weeks

Peabody's is really good sometimes."

Sophomore Mike Andrianich also went to the Cosmopolitan. He agreed that the club has the potential to be more fun during summer vacation when teens don't have school during the week and can go out until later on Sunday nights, the club's Young Adults night.

Other clubs such as the Odeon, the Agora and the Phantasy are night club/concert venues where local and nationally known bands come to play. People under 21 are allowed into almost all shows and tickets are available through Ticketmaster or can be bought at the door, depending on the popularity of the group playing and how many people are expected to attend. Although all of the clubs sell alcohol, they have extremely strict policies

on underage drinking and anyone caught doing so will be kicked out without a refund.

For some students, going to clubs that admit teenagers is not a big enough thrill and they turn to more adult places such as one of the countless nightclubs in the Flats. One anonymous student said that he and a friend obtained fake I.D.'s and used them to get into Trilogy, an 18-and-over dance club given a lot of publicity by WMMS DJ Jennifer Wylde. Clubs like Trilogy are popular, and are open to adults most days of the week.

So if you're in the mood for live music on the weekend or find yourself with a free Sunday evening, try one of the Cleveland area's underage dance clubs and dance your booty off.

For a good time on a boring weekend, give these dance clubs a chance to liven things up:

- ✓ Hang 10 (398-5005)
- ✓ Peabody's Downunder in the Flats (241-0792)
- ✓ Peabody's Cafe (321-1341)
- ✓ Trilogy (578-4246)

- ✓ Rhythms of Playhouse Square-Live Jazz Music (771-1818)
- ✓ Club Isabella (229-1177)

Beastie Boys' mix of rap, alternative genres recipe for successful group

COMMENTARY

BY LESLIE SIMON
Staff Reporter

What do you get when you take one part MCA, add a splash of Mike D, and a heaping portion of AD ROCK? No, this is not a recipe for your grandmother's beef stew. It is a recipe for the Beastie Boys, the punk-rap group whose following can be found all over the world thanks to their unique sound.

This New-York based band has released five albums since 1986 and has developed a reputation for their humorous lyrics and screaming antics. They have also appeared on such venues as the summer rock-fest Lollapalooza.

The Beastie Boys first appeared on the scene with their debut release *License to Ill*, which gained the band much notoriety with the singles "Girls," "Rhymin' and Stealin'," and the party anthem "Fight For

Your Right[to Party]." This album is filled with clever raps, and includes an intensity that, when expressed at a high decibel level, could even get Rip Van Winkle to stand up and join the jam.

Their second album, *Paul's Boutique*, was released in 1989 and is filled with the same type of songs as those from *License to Ill*. Tracks worth listening to include "Shake Your Rump," "3 Minute Rule," and "Hey Ladies," which is sampled in many late eighties dance hits.

With the Beastie Boys' third release, *Check Your Head*, in 1992, they added a more rock/alternative feel to the record, which is proven in such songs as "Groove Holmes." This also marked the first time that the Beastie Boys played their own instruments, with Mike D on drums while MCA and AD ROCK took to the guitars. Though still staying true to their rap roots, they produced such hits as "Pass the Mic," and "So What'cha Want."

Their latest release is *Ill Communication*. (The word I-L-L is still a mystery to all of their fans.) The album

holds 20 tracks, complete with an assortment of rock and rap titles. They have gained much fame because of the radio and MTV airplay of the first single released, "Sabotage." If one listens to the album, one might notice the familiar sound of A Tribe Called Quest's Abstract on the track "Get it Together."

In addition to the previous accomplishments, The Beastie Boys have also released an album chock full of B-sides and early songs called *Same Old Bullshit*. The boys have also introduced into nationwide popularity the all-female group Luscious Jackson, which includes the Beastie Boys former drummer. With their original style and groove, the Beastie Boys are a definite asset to the punk/rock/alternative/rap community. It is not every day that a band like this comes along, so give them a listen. Your ears will thank you.

The Beastie Boys will appear at the Cleveland Convocation Center on May 17. Tickets are already sold out, but if you already have yours, prepare yourself for an evening you will never forget.

So long, dudes

What's Goin' On?

BY JONATHAN HARRIS
Co-Arts & Entertainment

Well, it has been a wicked good time, but my Shakerite career has finally come to an end. That means no more "What's Goin' On," in which I, as your humble servant, tell you what there is to do in town so that you can have a good time (it also means no more deadlines, no more articles to write, the list goes on). So, in honor of my last issue, I will give you the greatest "What's Goin' On" in history.

As we near summer, the list of hot summer concerts gets longer. Although the list has not matured to its fullest potential, here is what we have to offer you so far:

- ✓ Phish June 20, Blossom Music Center. Tickets on sale for \$20.
- ✓ Little Feat June 7, Agora Theatre.
- ✓ Boston June 2, CSU Convocation Center.
- ✓ Stephen Stills June 17, Cain Park
- ✓ Ted Nugent June 17, Nautica Stage.
- ✓ Yanni June 21, Blossom Music Center

Not only are there good musical events to attend this summer, there are fun carnivals and events coming up the next few weeks:

- ✓ The I-X Indoor Amusement Park runs through May 7 at the I-X Center.
- ✓ The Great American Rib Cook-Off runs May 25 through the 29th at Burke Lakefront Airport
- ✓ The Blossom Time Carnival will take place sometime in May in Chagrin Falls

Don't forget all of the cool (?) dance clubs in town (see Jessica's article).

Summer means fun, and there are many fun things to do if you put your mind to it.

Thornton Park's pool opens Memorial Day weekend.

The Metroparks Zoo is always an enjoyable experience.

Learn a trade.

Fly a kite.

Do anything, but be sure to relax, have fun and wear plenty of sunscreen.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you, my faithful readers, for giving me your time. I'm sure you all had great times at the Queensryche and Throwing Muses concerts, and enjoyed seeing Cleveland through the large picture windows of Lolly the Trolley.

I know that our new A&E editors will take over and bring these pages to new heights. I wish you all good luck in your final years at Shaker. As for me, however, I bid you all a fond farewell.

Highest-Earning Entertainers in the World:

1. Oprah Winfrey
2. Steven Spielberg
3. Charles M. Schulz
4. David Copperfield
5. Siegfried & Roy

6. Tom Clancy
7. Stephen King
8. Xuxa
9. John Grisham
10. Michael Crichton & Andrew Lloyd Webber

Shakerite source: *The Top Ten of Everything*

Do you want to talk about it? Talk shows do

BY KATIE EDELSTEIN

Staff Reporter

From Oprah Winfrey to Ricki Lake, talk shows have talked their way to the top.

America's interest in talk shows relates to two things, according to English teacher Paul Springstubb. The first is America's interest in a "sideshow."

"There's a certain impulse people have of getting into other's business, similar to looking in your neighbor's bathroom window, or reading someone else's diary; it's interesting and somewhat entertaining," Springstubb said.

Another factor, according to Springstubb, is that talk shows help us feel.

"To quote Thoreau, 'Most men live lives of quiet desperation.' Television is helping us salve some of this desperation; watching others in pain helps us deal with our own pain," Springstubb said.

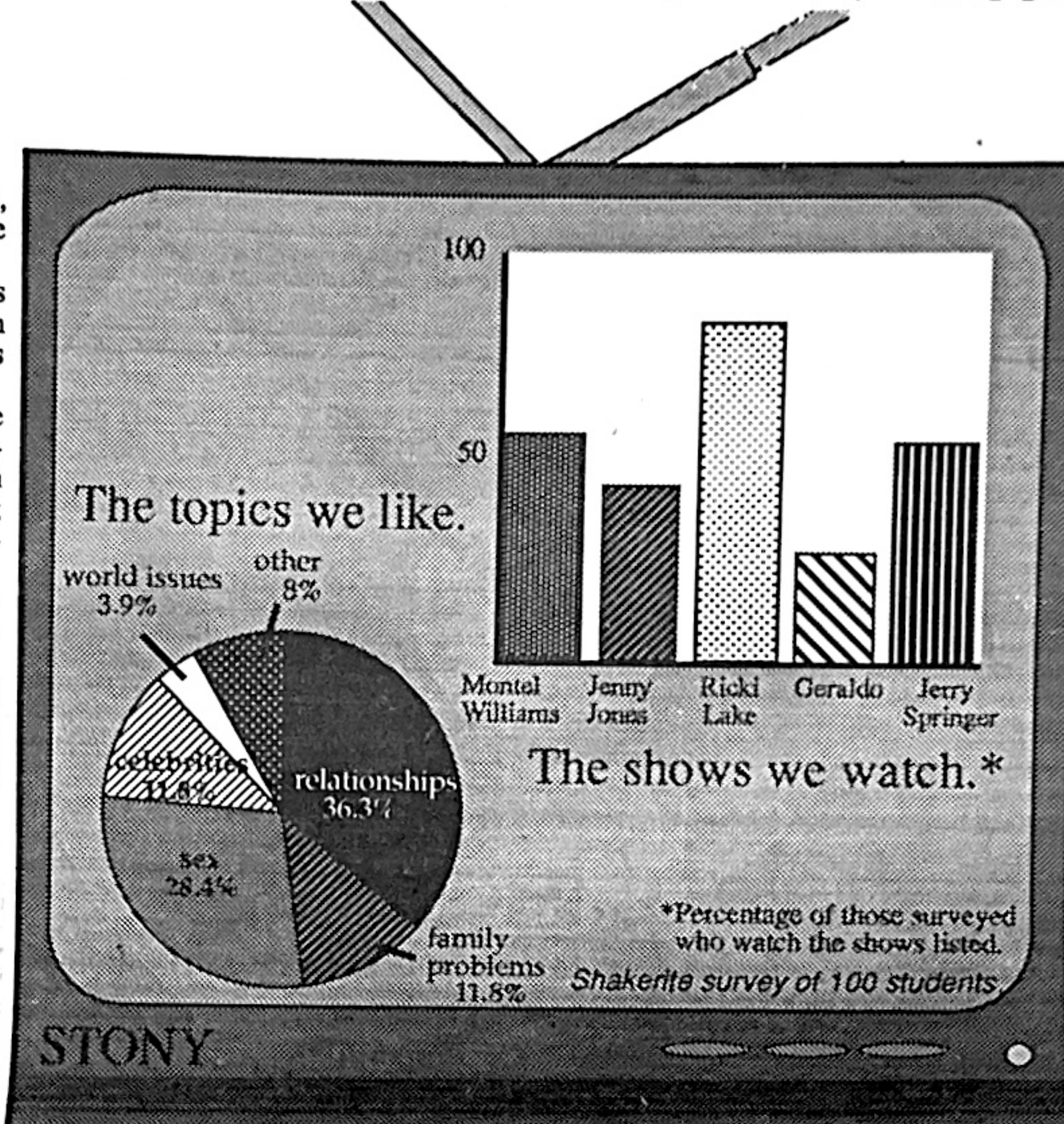
Our curiosity in people's lives, in the case of most talk shows, also means an interest to see others suffer.

"Talk shows remind me of ancient games in the Roman Coliseum, with all the blood. They're equivalent to watching someone having his guts ripped out, except the Romans never had someone going up the aisles to ask questions of the victims. Whenever I see a talk show, someone gets embarrassed and the audience eggs it on; there's a high state of agitation," Latin teacher Robert White said.

A "talk show fiend" is how senior Natalie Harper describes herself; she watches all of them. Harper said she also likes Oprah.

"I like the fact that Oprah talks about real stuff; stuff that really matters. The people who come on her show don't just come on and talk about it. She actually gets them help," Harper said.

Montel Williams is a favorite of



senior Maisha Blaine.

"I like Montel because he's real fatherly. If he knows someone is wrong, he tells them what's on his mind. Therefore he has respect on the show. Also, he deals with realistic topics that are reflective of society today," Blaine said.

Since Jerry Springer deals with interesting topics, sophomore Philip Smith tunes in.

"Jerry Springer is a good host because he can relate to all people of all ages. He

uses simple words to allow you to understand what he's talking about," Smith said.

Most talk show fans agree that Ricki Lake is trashy. Blaine thinks she is a loud sensationalist, strictly out for ratings.

"Ricki Lake tries too hard to be liked. She lets the audience rule the whole show like a bad class with a substitute; you can't hear what the people are trying to say. She also gets the most ignorant, ornery, uneducated African Americans to represent the entire culture," Blaine said.

Phil Donahue talks about real stuff, according to Harper, and Maury Povich gets kind of boring because he frequently talks about the same thing: fat people who want to lose weight. She also thinks Richard Bay is stupid.

"On this one episode he had women who are obsessed with married men, and he wanted the girls to prove how much they love the men. So, he made a concoction of Sprite, raw eggs, and pig knuckles, and told the women, 'If you really love these men you will drink this concoction.' Of course, none of them would, so he opened it up to the audience. One person drank it for \$80. Another person stuck her hand in a tank full of worms to retrieve \$200 from the bottom," Harper said.

Others think talk shows are a waste of time. Science teacher Robert Sylak classifies them as worse: "a destructive waste of time."

"They're stupid. I've been told they don't research the people they have, the people on them lie just to get on the show and they don't in any way reflect reality. They perform a disservice because they make the abnormal appear normal," Sylak said.

Rachel Weinstein does not like talk shows either.

"[Talk show hosts] are just people who are bored, decide they want to be a talk show host and come up with the most outlandish topics they can think of," Weinstein said.

Just how long will talk shows continue to dominate the screen? White hates to admit they haven't hit the bottom yet, and he thinks they will stay for awhile.

"It used to be that game shows were big. Now it's talk shows because they are cheaper to make; you pay one host, a production staff and the people who are on it. They're cheaper than game shows because you're not giving anyone a trip to the Bahamas or a dishwasher to be on the show," White said.

All revved up and no place to park

BY KIP BRITT

Staff Reporter

When they come to a stop on the oval around our school and fall asleep, everyone knows they will stay all day. To move, after all, would be to sacrifice such a coveted resting spot. It would doubtless be immediately claimed, for the masses circle again and again, waiting for an opportunity to claim their piece of the oval-shaped pie and looking with envy at those who already have theirs.

This is the state of affairs at the high school. It has come to be known as "the parking situation."

"Parking, for students or staff, is very tight," Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh said. "Not a day goes by when we don't talk about parking."

As students are quick to point out, individuals are faced with the task of procuring a parking place everyday.

"The driving situation sucks. That's why I don't drive anymore," sophomore Michael Gnizak said.

Another former driver, senior Levente Karetka, agreed with Gnizak.

"You have to get here at seven thirty-five to get a parking space. If you come any later, you pretty much blow your chances," Karetka said.

A popular notion is that the new generation of drivers is to blame for the problem.

"I think we just need more parking

because [the class of '97 is starting to drive]. When they start bringing their cars here, there are going to be no spaces at all," sophomore Carmella Kelley said.

Kelley herself believes that

sophomores should be allowed to drive, but others who share her view believe sophomores should not be allowed to drive.

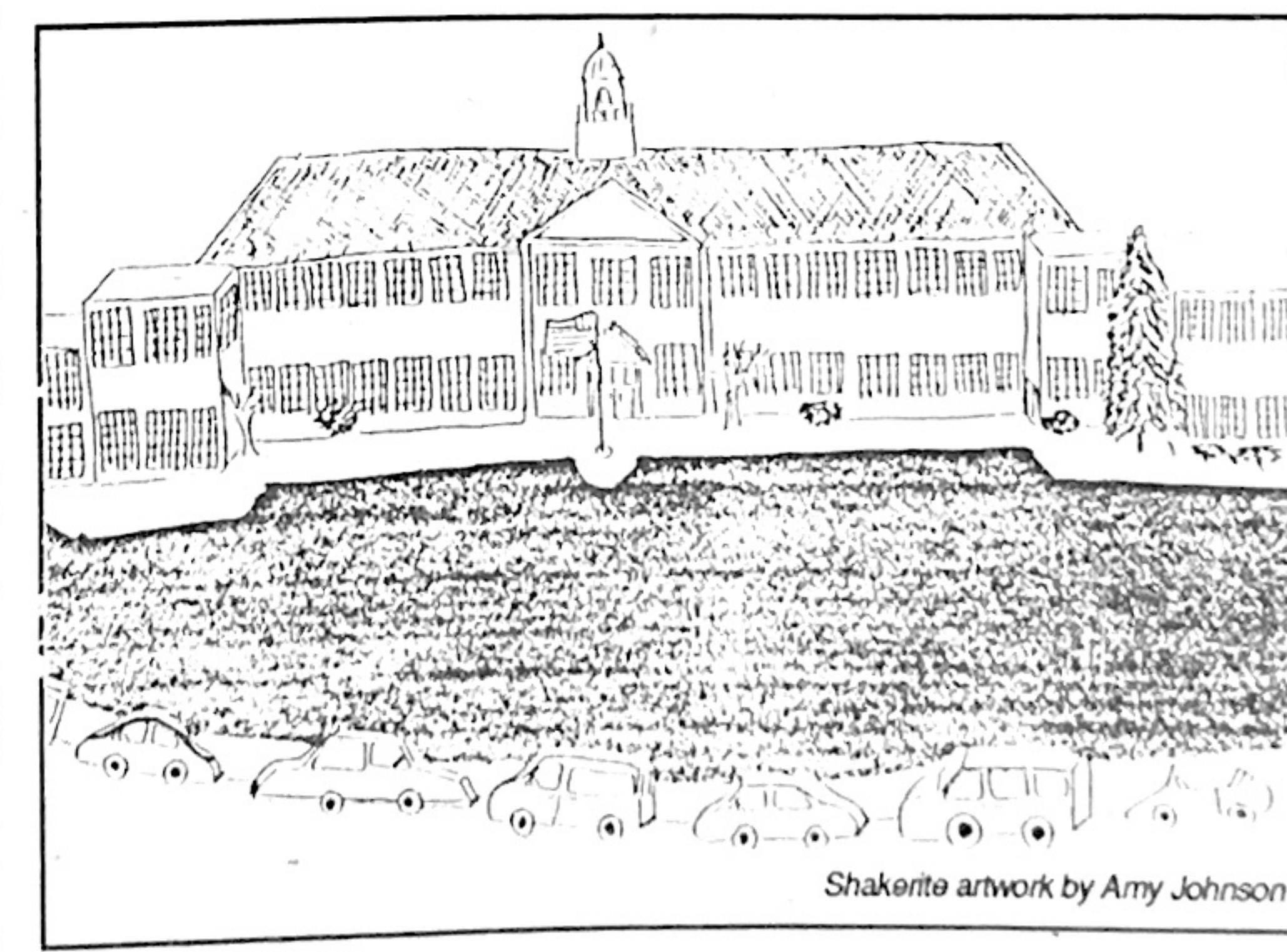
"I think [students] are more immature when they're in the tenth grade, so [park-

ing] should be mostly for eleventh and twelfth graders," junior Lauren Lockhart said.

Junior Marcella Battle agreed with Lockhart.

"[Parking] should only be for upperclassmen," Battle said.

While banning sophomore driving is one of the few suggestions offered to remedy the situation, it is not an option readily embraced by all.



Shakerite artwork by Amy Johnson

"Tenth graders should be allowed to drive, because [prohibiting them from driving] would be a discrimination. If they're 16 and they can get their license, they have a right to be able to drive, too," sophomore Dora Huston said.

Sophomores, however, are not alone in their stand. Rumbaugh also feels that sophomores have a right to drive.

"[Sophomores should be allowed to drive] because parking is not on school property. The fact is, we need to find more parking," Rumbaugh said.

Faculty parking, which is on school property, is also cramped. According to Rumbaugh, the north and south lots have been restricted to employees in the school district. The decision, though, has failed to ease the "parking blues."

"We have more teachers than we have parking spaces," security guard Cheryl Jennings said. "There's nowhere to go."

Most seem to view it as an impossible situation to remedy. Others look to the principal to accomplish the feat. Rumbaugh, at least, can offer hope, by speaking of a coming solution without flinching.

"The solution is going to have to come from a combination of the school district, the high school, and the city of Shaker Heights; because the neighbors of the school don't want people to park anywhere. I guess when they built this building in the 1930s not that many drove," Rumbaugh said.



Gender equality: women in science and math

By Seema Shah and Debbie Libman



What's wrong with this picture?

First U.S. winners of the Nobel Prize for Physics:

- ◆ Albert Abraham Michelson
- ◆ Robert Andrews Millican
- ◆ Carl David Anderson
- ◆ Clinton Joseph Davisson
- ◆ Ernest Orlando Lawrence
- ◆ Otto Stern
- ◆ Isidor Isaac Rabi
- ◆ Percy Williams Bridgman
- ◆ Felix Bloch
- ◆ Edward Mills Purcell

First U.S. winners of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry:

- ◆ Theodore William Richards
- ◆ Irving Langmuir
- ◆ Harold Clayton Urey
- ◆ James Batcheller Sumner
- ◆ John Howard Northrop
- ◆ Wendell Meredith Stanley
- ◆ William Francis Giauque
- ◆ Edwin Mattison McMillan
- ◆ Glenn Theodore Seaborg
- ◆ Linus Carl Pauling



Breaking the Stereotypes

When World War II ended, women were no longer willing to accept careers that were traditionally meant for their sex.

Women who had once been secretaries and nurses now wanted to be engineers, astronauts and doctors.

These women longed to break the stereotypes set for them.

Today, things are not much different.

Many women with scientific talent are discouraged by critics who say that science is innately antagonistic to women, according to a recent *Skeptical Inquirer*.

Young women are being turned away from science in a number of ways.

Math teacher Margaret Boles sees the same trend in math. Boles believes that female students are being discouraged from mathematical fields because of a lack of female teachers in higher level math courses.

Sophomore Jane Cameron agreed with Boles.

"All the teachers in higher level classes are usually men or have favoritism towards men," Cameron said.

According to *Skeptical Inquirer*, women have not been given an equal opportunity for education, careers, advancement or recognition in science.

Science teacher H. Clair Rankin disagreed, stating that the school's science department is willing to see females excel in science.

"The young ladies at the high school should assert themselves. Young women should make more positive moves than they do," Rankin said.

Scientific ideals and the methods used to secure those ideals are somehow masculine, *Skeptical Inquirer* said.

Likewise, junior Jessica Zagier said her parents automatically assume she is stronger in English because she is female.

"English is more talking about your feelings," sophomore Danielle Barnes said.

Barnes added that men do not like to show their feelings and are therefore not as strong in English.

"I don't think [the stereotypes] are accurate or true. If a female wants to excel in any kind of study she wants, that's her option," sophomore Carlton Chandler said.

Sophomore Mike Chaney does not see equality either.

"I don't think [women] get a fair chance [in math and science] but in the future, they're going to be expected to do better," Chaney said.

Shakerite artwork by Jennifer Johnson

Merchant prepares to leave teaching after 12 years

BY NICOLE SUTCLIFFE

Staff Reporter

A small girl makes her weekly trip to the library with her father, basket in hand and excitement in her eyes as she looks for her family's source of entertainment for the days ahead.

These trips to the library were one of the main things that provoked her love for literature and inspired Rosemary Merchant to be an English teacher.

"I had a modest upbringing and the one thing that was available to us was the library. Reading exposed me to incredible experiences that I would not have had if I didn't love literature. I still get thrilled with what you can get out of a book," Merchant said.

After 12 years of teaching, Merchant will be retiring at the end of this school year.

"My husband is retiring and we wanted to be able to spend time together. It seemed like the time was right," Merchant said.

One of the reasons Merchant became a teacher was because of the time period in which she grew up.

"I was in college in the '50s, and in those years women did not think beyond teaching, nursing or being a secretary. Women did not think that they had as many choices then," Merchant said.

Merchant said teaching has given her the satisfaction of helping people.

"I enjoy having students get excited about learning, realizing that knowledge is a wonderful thing. I enjoyed being able to see students relating a piece of literature to their lives," Merchant said.

English teacher Ellen Kelly feels Merchant's enthusiasm is an inspiration.

"She is very understanding and kind with students. I think that is a good example to follow. She has a very kind streak about her and is very hard working. She is a good example to anybody," Kelly said.

Looking back, Merchant said she feels she has learned many things about teaching.

"I have learned it is necessary to be as flexible as possible and to take advantage of teachable moments," Merchant said.

Merchant said she admires her parents for their tremendous sense of purpose, but she also looks up to her colleagues.

"I really admire a number of colleagues in many disciplines, not just English, who are such knowledgeable and dedicated people," Merchant said.

Merchant said she has noticed and tried to correct many problems, one of which is that students do not realize how much education will help them in the future.

"I try to vary lessons and make a personal connection with the students to let them feel that I'm very supportive of them," Merchant said.

Merchant taught in Maple Heights from 1959-1961 and then decided to stay at home with her children. 22 years later she came back to teaching.

"I wanted to be home with my family when they were young, and I came back to teaching when I was ready. I was really fortunate to have been able to come back," she said.

Merchant said she will miss the friendships she has made here and that they are treasured.

"Probably the most significant thing to me has been the friendships I have made on the staff and with the students," Merchant said.

Kelly said she will miss the friendship she has shared with Merchant.

"I'm going to miss her very much. I've shared a room with her for eight or nine years and we have become very close," Kelly said. "I think what I'll miss most is being able to see and talk with her everyday."

After staying home for 22 years

Merchant said she feels she is fortunate to have been able to come back to teaching in a facility like the high school.

"I feel privileged to have been a part of Shaker Heights High School and to be involved with the staff and students here. It truly is a special educational facility," Merchant said.

The little girl is now grown-up and the trips to the library with her father are long gone but the love of literature and teaching will be instilled in her heart for now and forever.



KEEPING IN TOUCH. English teacher Rosemary Merchant uses her own enthusiasm to work personally with her students and help them to learn as much as possible. She will be retiring at the end of this school year.

Shakerite photo by Larry Latson

Saying goodbye: Teachers bid farewell to past and look to future

Norris comes from a family of teachers

BY NICOLE SUTCLIFFE

Staff Reporter

The alarm rings at 5:30 and a man slowly rises and looks over to see the same clock that has woken him up for the past thirty years.

Science teacher Kenneth Norris has taught in the Shaker School System for 17 years. Prior to this job he taught in the Cleveland Public Schools for 13 years. Now, because of health reasons and for other teachers to receive a chance, he has decided to retire.

"I have a desire for new experiences, and it is time to step aside for some new blood. Younger teachers bring more up to date thinking, teaching and techniques," Norris said.

Norris' immediate plans are to travel to places such as New York City and Paris. Despite his excitement for his plans he will miss certain parts of teaching.

"I will miss the comaraderie of the staff and the student-teacher relationship in and out of the classroom," Norris said.

Norris first wanted to become a doctor, but when he realized he would not be able to, he picked teaching science to stay in the field.

"I came from a family of teachers, and

I felt I liked working with young people. I originally wanted to be a doctor but realized that that would not be the direction to take. So to keep from losing my desire, I thought I should be involved in science through teaching," Norris said.

Besides teaching biology and physical science, Norris has been extremely active in school, including clubs and sports.

"In addition to direct contact with the students in class I have been a class adviser, an adviser to student council, helped out with

the tutoring center, and in the summer of 1981 I took four students on a three week Hawaiian biology scuba program. Simple items of assisting at football and basketball games present kids in a different light, less formal," Norris said.

Students feel Norris has had a lot of personal contact with his students and it has been helpful for them.

"I had Mr. Norris in ninth grade, and he was an extremely supportive teacher who always cared what I did inside and outside of the classroom," senior Allison Bibb said.

Norris

said seeing his former students do well in the world brings him a sense of satisfaction.

"When I am able to meet former students or read about them and see their successes, I feel perhaps my influences in their lives had a small part to play in their success," Norris said.

Bibb said the school and the students will not be the same without him.

"I think the school will suffer a great deal because of his retirement. He was supportive of the whole Shaker basketball program. He stayed at school from eight in the morning to ten at night. He always supported the basketball team and the cheerleaders," Bibb said.

One thing which Norris said he will not miss about teaching is the increasing responsibilities of teachers as parental roles to the students.

"I feel a teacher's role has changed over the years to place more and more energy going to areas other than education. More and more teachers are taking on roles of other institutions taking away from the primary purpose," Norris said.

After this school year ends the alarm clock will sit silent as it changes from 5:29 to 5:30, and the man that had once gotten up will now sleep undisturbed.



VARIETY. Science teacher Kenneth Norris is involved all over school.

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

SPORTS

May 4, 1995
SHAKERITE · PAGE 14

Top five ways you know you are infected with Shaker spirit

5. When you are cut, you bleed red and white.
4. The article naming you Raider of the Month is framed on your wall.
3. You try to stop a gang fight in order to win a spirit pass.
2. You secretly dress up as the Raider at home and for Halloween.
1. You memorize all the words to every Shaker song and sing them in the shower.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Softball starts season slow

A 2-5 record is a disappointing start for a softball team filled with thoughts of success to come.

This season has been marked as a rebuilding year, but most members of this year's varsity softball team feel different now that the season has begun.

"We're 2-0 in the league and if we keep improving on both offense and defense we should be able to win the league," senior co-captain Krysten Dean said.

Winning both of their league games so far over Garfield and Mentor, the team is hoping to soon contend with some of the softball power houses in the state. They are striving to win their first league championship in three years.

"We have just made a few key mistakes that have blown it for us," senior co-captain Lindsey Wiggins said.

As the offense of the team continues to struggle, defense has been put back into effect unlike last year's team.

"Defense has been key," Wiggins said. "The team has been improving every game, and it is becoming more and more seldom to see an error. [The errors] have been the greatest improvement of the team from last year."

Recently in the Westlake softball tournament Shaker finished strong with a fourth place finish.

"We played really well in the tournament, yet we still need to improve if we want to be able to play with the better teams in the state," Dean said.

-Todd Svec

Tennis serves up success

The tennis team has started off their season by winning five of their first six matches, losing only to Boardman.

The team plays about four matches a week, with a practice mixed in. The practices include an hour of play and then another half hour of flex band training, in which an athlete trains with bands providing resistance. This strengthens their bodies, especially their legs.

Freshman Adam Grossman said despite the hard work the team manages to have fun.

"Everyone on the team is really different, and everyone is a comedian in his own way, so the atmosphere is really relaxed and friendly," he said.

The team has been featured in the Plain Dealer and is led by seniors Ryan Smith and Kevin Cole and junior Dan Young.

"This is my first year," Grossman said. "And so far it's been fun. We have a really good team with a lot of potential."

Smith added the reason he does not mind having tennis take up so much time is because he feels this is the best group of players he has worked with.

"During the past three years that I've played, this is the most talented bunch of guys I've had a chance to work with."

The team plays its matches at the tennis courts on Onaway.

-Lauren Gentile

Track teams train to trim times

BY SCOTT FULLER

Staff Reporter

The women's track team has been extremely successful in the past few years, and with the loss of only three seniors, it is likely that their good fortune will continue.

Last season the women went 7-2 in the LEL, and were district champions. Their team was comparable to the '92 and '93 squads, which both went undefeated in the LEL but were runners-up at districts.

"This team is not that different from the ones I've coached in the past few years," head coach Henry Woodard said. "We've generally had quality athletes all the way through."

Woodard cites stronger distance runners as a reason why this team may be an improvement over some of the past ones.

"I think we're going to do really well," Hanson said. "We had a long indoor season that started back in November, and we have two excellent foreign exchange students running for us."

These two students are junior Miriam Gerdes from Germany, who runs hurdles, high jumps and other relays and sophomore Alythia Salcedo from Spain, who runs the 800 meter dash.

Events to watch for this year?

"The 4x400 and 4x200 relays are probably the team's strongest this year," said Hanson.

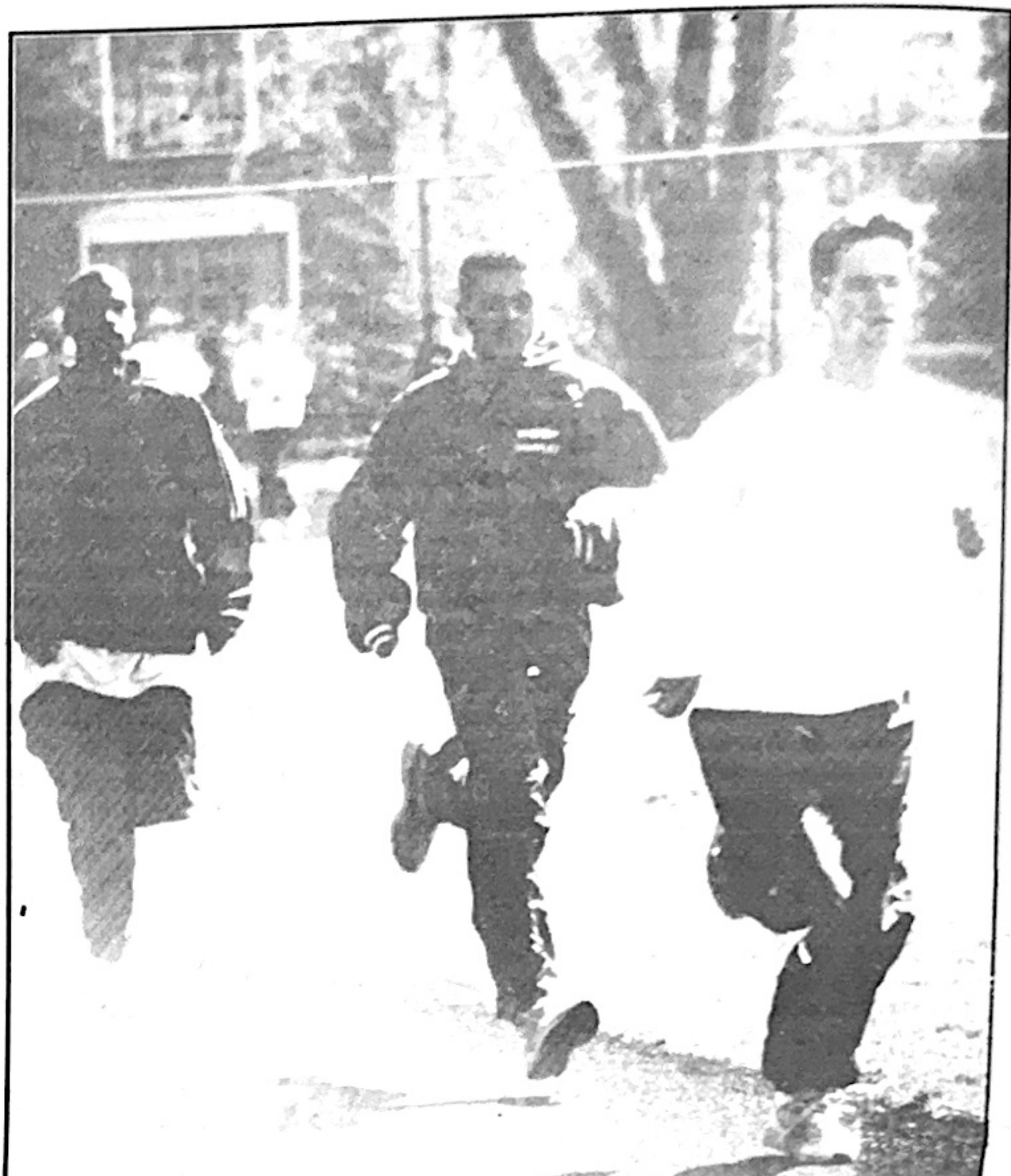
Woodard sees it differently than Hanson, listing several events.

"The 4x400, 400 m, 200 m, discus, hurdles..." he said.

The men's team also has a large list of accomplishments it hopes to achieve, and on the top: state champs in certain individual events.

"In the 4x800 we expect to be contenders for the state title," senior Levente Karetka said.

So far the in the 4x800, the team of seniors Manny Johnson, Ron Thompson, Aaron Sharpley and Karetka have the fastest time in the state and Thompson has the fastest individual time in the 800 meter dash in the area.



DON'T LOOK BACK. Senior Levente Karetka is chased by seniors Aaron Sharpley and Manny Johnson in a recent practice. So far the team is 7-2 including a one point loss to Mentor.

Shaker photo by Larry Latson

"Although in my opinion the track team is not as strong as it was last year, we still have a lot of relays and individuals who are going to make it to states," Thompson said, "Our seniors are our strong point."

This group of seniors includes

Johnson (300 hurdles, 4x800 relay, 4x400 relay), Sharpley (400, 4x800, 4x400), Jeff Kelleher (mile), Mike Gantous (shot put and discus), Karetka (800, 4x800, 4x400), and Thompson (800, 4x800, 4x400). Also sophomore Steve Hall (high and long jump) is doing well.

Editor reflects, sees future for Shaker

COMMENTARY

BY MICHAEL BECKER

Sports Editor

2-8, 3-7, 6-4 and finally 10-0. The football team has gone from being the laughingstock of the Lake Erie League to being a top ranked team in the state.

What I once considered a joke, is team was now a major source of school pride.

Next year Shaker will again go undefeated and will beat St. Ignatius and win the state championship.

Art Modell, owner of the Cleveland Browns will eventually see how bad his coach Bill Belichick is and he will replace him with Shaker coach David Sedmak, who will then guide them to five consecutive Super Bowls."

"

don't see any drop off with my graduation, because it seems that every class has its field hockey stars. In fact with such a solid bunch of juniors this year, they should be favorites for next year's state championship.

One year after the field hockey title, the ice hockey team captured the state championship. Unfortunately, the top play-

ers seem to think Shaker hockey is not good enough and end up playing at some boarding schools. Eventually they might take coach Michael Bartley, too.

But equally amazing with these sports is the success of the swim teams. Both teams have not lost in four years and the women's team became the first team to beat Hawken in a decade. Eventually head coach Ernest Welsch will become sick of winning and will try more of a challenge, coaching Parma.

Some teams cannot win the state championship because of lack of opponents throughout Ohio. These teams such as lacrosse compete regionally. Last year the women's lacrosse team was the

Midwest champion, and the men's team has been consistently in the top fifteen in the state. I expect little change from their past.

Baseball is also successful at Shaker, where last year's team made it to the final eight in the state before being defeated by Austintown Fitch. This year they have been ranked as high as fifth in the state. In the future I see them succeed as junior Matt Guerrier beckons pro scouts.

The basketball team was incredible when I was a freshman with Malcolm Sims eventually landing at Indiana University. This year's team also was strong led by junior Michael Sims (no relation). Next year with this Sims and another junior, Jermaine Kimbrough, they again should be a force in the LEL as colleges try to recruit these two all-LEL players.

The soccer teams have also had their moderate success, with some years better than others, but look for improvements, especially on the women's side. Head coach and psychology teacher Baird Wiehe will test some new psychological theories in making the most out of his players.

Track, cross country, softball and wrestling all had solid individuals but in the future will come together as teams.

Wow, four years is through, and almost all of the sports have had something to cheer about. Few regrets from a lucky sports editor.

Rock climbing offers fun alternative for athletes

BY LEIGH STEVENS

Staff Reporter

Sick of running and doing sit-ups, but you still want to stay in shape? Rock climbing is a fun and daring alternative to everyday exercise and can be done right here in Cleveland.

Rock climbing can be dangerous, but according to Kris Lucich, an employee at the Cleveland Rock Climbing Gym in Euclid, it can also be a lot of fun.

There are different types of rock climbing. There is free climbing which is when one climbs rock and uses rope only as a back-up safety device. There is bouldering which is when one climbs smaller rocks without the use of any type of rope, and there is indoor and outdoor rock climbing.

Rock climbers are safely secured by a process called belaying. This is when a climber is held safe with a rope. Lucich said that though this sport seems scary, it is safe because of the security in the rope.

Rock climbing exercises the arms and fingers. According to Lucich, a rock climber must be able to think on his feet and make decisions quickly. He feels people of all sizes should be able to compete equally, because quick thinking and endurance is more important than brute strength.

Before rock climbing, lessons are recommended. At the Cleveland Rock Climbing Gym they cost \$50. There is a beginning class offered on Saturdays from 9-12 a.m. On Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. one can go and climb, and no prior experience is necessary (no lesson is needed) during this time.

Renting the equipment and use of the wall for the day costs \$15.

The equipment is an important part of rock climbing. Most important are the special rubber soled shoes, a har-

ness which serves as a seat and a carabiner which connects the climber to the ropes.

Junior Hallie Albert has taken part in the rock climbing experience.

"I think rock climbing is a great experience and everyone should try it. People should make sure they do it safely, but with the right equipment it is safe," Albert said. "I love rock climbing because it is a great rush and I feel great after I accomplish a good climb."

The Cleveland Rock Climbing Gym is the place for people to practice this

recreation sport in the area, but many colleges have them on their campuses.

Outdoor climbing is also offered in two

places in Ohio. In Southeastern Ohio at the Hocking State Forest in Rock Ridge and at the John Bryan State Park in Yellow Springs near Dayton.

RECREATIONAL SPORTS



Shakerite artwork by Jennifer Johnson

Lacrosse teams try to win early on

BY BRENDAN MASINI

Staff Reporter

This season, Shaker's lacrosse teams started quickly, posting winning records early in this year's schedule.

The women's team, coached by Liz Wilson is off to a 6-0 start in their pursuit of a second straight Midwest Schoolgirls Lacrosse title. They have defeated Mt. Lebanon, Worthington, Hudson, Hathaway Brown, Laurel, and Western Reserve Academy as they have torn through the early part of their schedule.

"Everything so far has been looking promising for this team," sophomore Jennifer Mulligan said.

Part of this team's success has been attributed to outstanding efforts by some individuals who have contributed in a powerful manner. Juniors, Jennifer Webb, Tonia Porras, Gill Grim, and goalie Clo Ewing have done a good job this year in helping the team win.

Last season, they won the Midwest title with an 18-0-1 record, and with an undefeated record so far have a good chance to repeat.

This year's men's squad has also been playing well despite losses of key players from last year's team.

"We have many young players starting and even some first year seniors," coach Steve Daray said.

According to Daray, one of this team's strengths is defense. Defensive standouts include seniors Chris Kalafatis, and Jason Sable and junior Chris Moore.

Daray said that the team's defense was strong but the offense was not there to give support on the other end. He said, however, there is a lot of talent on the offensive end with senior Chris Morgan, junior Billy Fallon, and freshman Carl Ewing all playing very well, although at times the offense is unable to produce.

Daray complimented the team after its latest game about its overall hustle after



DODGE 'EM. Junior Ryan McDaniel escapes the clutches of Toledo St. Francis. The next game is today at home against Revere.

Shakerite photo by Larry Latson

ground balls as well as its overall team defense.

This season may be used as a stepping stone to future success of Shaker lacrosse.

"This is a good rebuilding year for our team compared to last year, and we are playing against some very good teams," freshman David Beard said.

The team will face Western Reserve Academy and St. Ignatius in upcoming matches, and will also see University School for the first time in the last five years because of a fight that broke out between the two teams at their last meeting. The team is confident they will be able to defeat their rivals.

"We should be able to beat U.S. and if they start something after the game, we'll be ready for them," junior Ryan Miller said.

The team looks forward to continuing this successful season against its future opponents.

"A few wins should really help out this team and the Shaker lacrosse program," said Fallon.

RAIDERS OF THE MONTH

Phil Rosenbaum pitches for four years on varsity

BY ANNE ZRENDA

Staff Reporter

The first freshman ever to make the varsity baseball team, senior Phil Rosenbaum concludes his final season as one of the team's star pitchers.

The youngest of four brothers, baseball is entrenched in his family. In fact Rosenbaum earned the 15th varsity baseball letter amongst his brothers.

Rosenbaum, with his brother Doug, a '93 graduate now at the University of Washington, are the only two brothers to be named Raiders of the Month.

"Phil has added experience, senior leadership, and great baseball knowledge to the team," junior first baseman David Pitman said.

In the early going of the season Rosenbaum is off to a 2-1 record with a victory over Warrensville Heights April 28.

Rosenbaum is excited for the season to be underway and is looking for the team to be successful as it was last year



PHIL ROSENBAUM. The senior pitcher was the first freshman to make the varsity baseball team.

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

when it went to the District finals.

"This year's team is very close," he said. "I'm looking forward to the season, big time."

His enthusiasm is dampened only by the cancellation of several early season games.

"My only complaint is that today was our sixth game cancelled, so now, we have more games cancelled than played," Rosenbaum said.

Jennifer Webb shows skills in spring and fall

BY AARON GALVIN

Staff Reporter

"Why was I picked to be Raider of the Month? I haven't done anything yet," junior Jennifer Webb asked.

Yet over the past two years, as a lacrosse player, Webb has led the Raiders to the Mid-West Championships and in turn, helped improve the Shaker lacrosse program.

Along with being the co-captain of the team, Webb has been selected to the all league, state, and Junior National teams. She is amongst the leaders in women's sports at Shaker.

Webb, an all around athlete, participates in field hockey during the fall season where she was selected as the Plain Dealer Player of the Year. She excels in both sports and also enjoys them equally.

"I like both of the sports the same, but it depends on which season I am playing in. I tend to like that sport better," Webb said.



JENNIFER WEBB. The junior lacrosse star is being recruited by Division I-A colleges.

Shakerite photo by Laura

She also plans to play both sports at the Division I-A college level. She hopes to attend Pennsylvania State University, the University of Maryland or the University of Virginia, all strong lacrosse schools.

"I've gotten many recruitment letters and in turn, sent letters to the colleges of my choice," she said. "I would hopefully like to play field hockey and lacrosse at college."

Baseball slugs way to quick start

BY ANGELICA ELLIOT
Staff Reporter

Taking it one game at a time, the baseball team has started its season with a 7-3 record.

Although it is early in the season, success is already taking much hard work and determination on the team's part. Errors have prevented the team from enjoying the spoils of victory.

"We definitely need to minimize the amount of errors made in each game. They have been holding us back," senior Andy Pohl said.

In previous years at this time, the team's record has been slightly better than it is at present, according to coach Buddy Longo.

Despite being ranked fifth in the area, the coach and players are aware that there is room for improvement. Along with making errors, some team members feel that talent needs to be developed more.

"I think we have more talent than

we've ever had before, but we just need to put it together," senior Cullin O'Brien said.

Senior Brian Sowell agreed with his teammates, and expressed the need for players to work hard at the beginning of a game as well as at the end.

"We need to start the game with intensity and focus, instead of gaining it towards the end," he said.

Sowell, who Longo cited as a standout player, has been having a great beginning of the season and was named a Plain Dealer's Player of the Week recently.

"He's got great speed, quick hands, and he's a great hitter," Longo said.

Longo also noted O'Brien's talents.

"Cullin's got a great eye for the ball and is a great hitter," he said.

Junior pitcher Matt Guerrier, who carries a career record of 8-1, is one of the finest pitchers in the area, according to Longo.

Juniors Max Axler and David Pitman, and seniors Sean Malone and Preston Reaze were also recognized by the coach as having terrific seasons thus

far.

The team is led by senior players, who play the role of captains, and hope to help in leading the team to many more victories.

"We feel the seniors are the leaders and we couldn't just pick two people to be captains," Sowell said.

According to O'Brien, the players are good friends and try to remain united both on and off the field.

"Most of us have been playing baseball together since we were freshman," Sowell added.

Players have high expectations for the team and won't accept the present standard of playing.

"I want to win it all before I graduate," O'Brien said.

Team members remember past seasons and hope to live up to the old successful standard of playing.

"I just tell them to take it one game at a time, one pitch at a time, and one at-bat at a time," Longo said.



STEP INTO IT. Senior Brian Sowell takes a cut during a recent game. The baseball team is off to a strong start being ranked as high as fifth in the state.

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

RED RAIDER WRAP-UP

BASEBALL

RECORD: 8-3
LEL RECORD: 10-2
JV RECORD: 6-2
9TH RECORD: 4-1

—The team has been ranked as high as fifth in the Associated Press state poll.
—Their next game is May 8 at Cleveland Heights.

WOMEN'S TRACK

—RECORD: 8-1
—LEL RECORD: 8-1
—Senior Heather Hanson is having a strong season.
—Their next meet is Saturday at Austintown Fitch.

MEN'S TENNIS

RECORD: 10-2
LEL RECORD: 4-0
JV RECORD: 6-4

—Senior captains Kevin Cole and Ryan Smith, juniors Dan Young, Brian Snyder and Robert Rusher, sophomores Jimmy Young, Ben Householder and Brad Keys and freshman Adam Grossman are all off to impressive starts.
—The team is a perfect 20-0 in individual matches versus LEL opponents.
—Their next match is tomorrow against Toledo St. Francis.

SOFTBALL

RECORD: 2-5
LEL RECORD: 2-0

—Senior co-captains Krysten Dean and Lindsey Wiggins are having strong seasons.
—Their next game is today at home against Warrensville.

MEN'S TRACK

RECORD: 7-2
LEL RECORD: 7-2

—Senior Ron Thompson has the fastest time in the 800 meters in the city.
—Their next meet is Saturday at Austintown Fitch.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

RECORD: 6-0
JV RECORD: 3-0-2

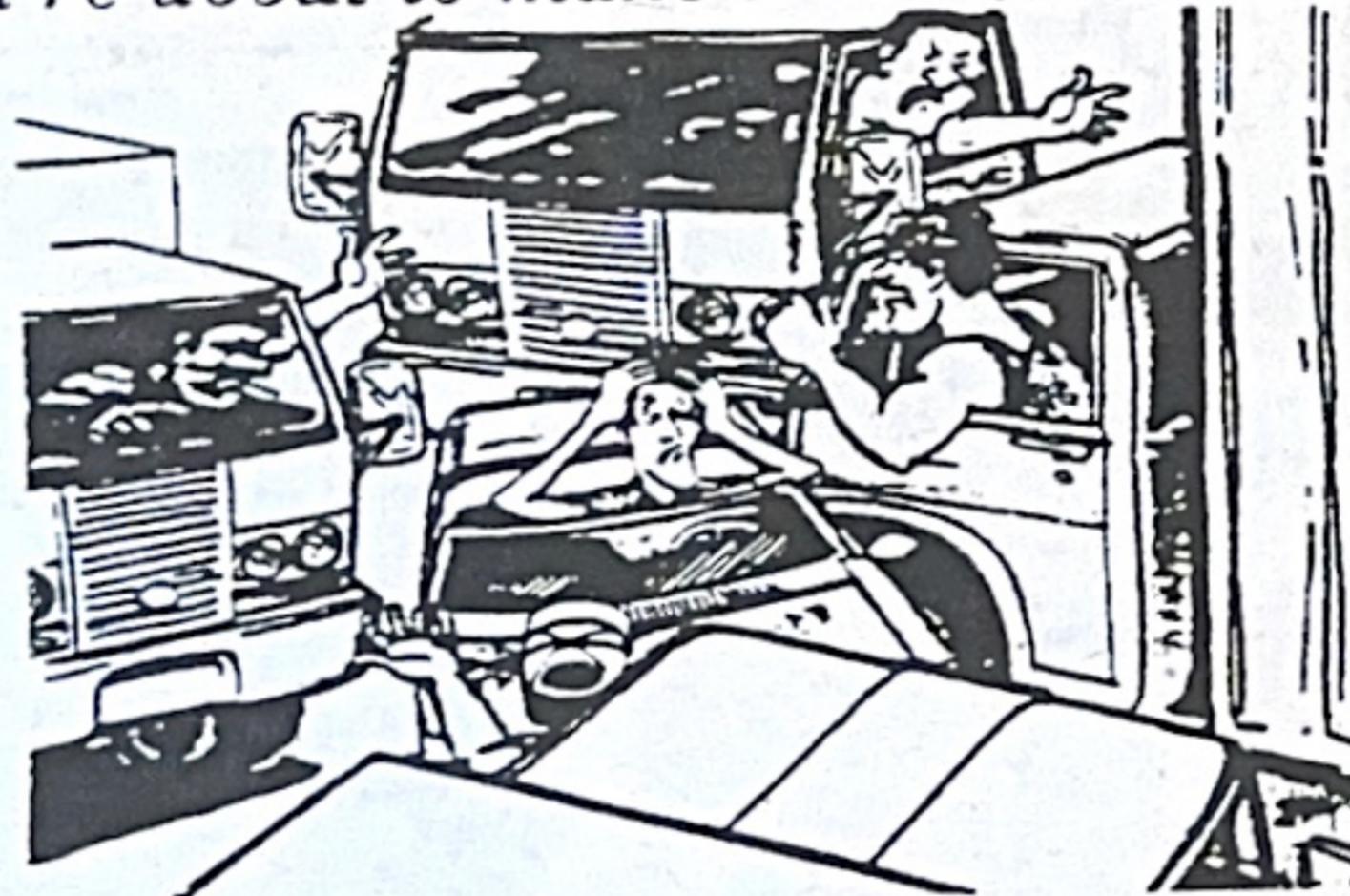
—The team looks to repeat as Midwest champions.
—Their next game is tomorrow at home versus Andrews.

MEN'S LACROSSE

RECORD: 1-2
JV RECORD: 0-3

—Jon Makela, Chris Morgan and Chris Moore are captains.
—Their next game is today at home against Revere.

You're about to make a critical decision...



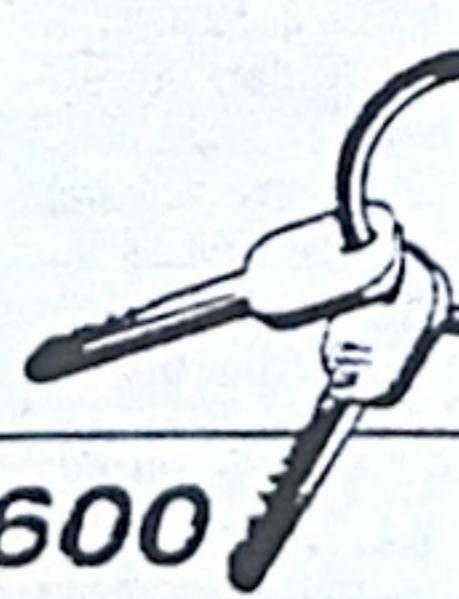
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